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CONTENTS

27 September 1990

NOTICE TO READERS: An * indicates material not disseminated in electronic form.

NORTHEAST ASIA

Japan

- Cheney Urges Role in Gulf Peacekeeping Force *[KYODO]* 1
- Official Welcomes Bush Gulf Crisis Aid Plan *[KYODO]* 1
- Spokesman Welcomes U.S. Move on Oil Reserves *[KYODO]* 1
  - MITI Not To Follow *[KYODO]* 1
- Draft Bill for Dispatch of Troops Approved *[KYODO]* 2
  - Kaifu Outlines Bill *[KYODO]* 2
  - Further Kaifu Remarks *[KYODO]* 2
  - Diet To Discuss Law *[KYODO]* 3
  - Parties Object to Bill *[KYODO]* 4
- JSP Report on Smaller SDF, Restrictions *[KYODO]* 4
- JSP Supports SDF, Two-Stage Reform *[KYODO]* 4
- Coordination Group Approves 'Frontline' Funds *[KYODO]* 5
- Nakayama, EC Agree To Discuss Emergency Aid *[KYODO]* 5
- JOC Likely To Follow IOC Stance on Kuwait *[KYODO]* 6
- Airline President on Fare Hikes, Aid to Gulf *[KYODO]* 6
- Perez de Cuellar, Nakayama Discuss Efforts *[KYODO]* 6
- Turkish Envoy 'Supports' Wish for UN Seat *[KYODO]* 7
- Kaifu's Advisers Urge Wider International Role *[KYODO]* 7
- Rio Group Seeks 'Close Economic Relations' *[KYODO]* 8
- Foreign Ministry Welcomes Accord With DPRK *[KYODO]* 8
- Kaifu Welcomes Kim Il-song's 'Commitment' *[KYODO]* 9
- Kaifu Pleased With Progress in DPRK Talks *[KYODO]* 9
- Kaifu Approves Proposal for Oil Loans to USSR *[KYODO]* 9
- USSR To Release Three Detained Fishermen *[KYODO]* 9
- USSR Pays $207 Million for Steel Imports *[KYODO]* 10
- Proposal To Cut Agricultural Subsidies Planned *[KYODO]* 10
- Firms Urged To Buy U.S. Amorphous Metals *[KYODO]* 10
- NEC Signs Agreement With U.S. Computer Firm *[KYODO]* 10
- JAL Subsidiary Wins Approval for Linear Rail *[KYODO]* 11
- Mandela Plans Tokyo, Osaka Rallies on Trip *[KYODO]* 11
- Nakayama Meets With Yugoslavian Counterpart *[KYODO]* 11
- CSFR Economic Minister Seeks Investment *[KYODO]* 12
- Greek Leader Meets Kaifu, Urges Investment *[KYODO]* 12
- New Romanian Ambassador Interviewed on Ties *[KYODO]* 12
- Auto Industry To Seek Easing of PRC Controls *[KYODO]* 13
- Pulp-Making Study Team Plans Oct PRC Visit *[KYODO]* 13
- Honda Approved for Manufacturing in Philippines *[KYODO]* 14
- Indonesia To Raise Price of Exported Oil *[KYODO]* 14
- Paper Manufacturer, FRG Firm Form Venture *[KYODO]* 14
- Two Ministers Resign Because of Illness *[KYODO]* 14
- Finance Ministry Eases Corporate Bond Curbs *[KYODO]* 15
- Leading Index Shows Economy To Keep Growing *[KYODO]* 15
- Manufactured Goods Imports Increase 8.1 Percent *[KYODO]* 15
- Asahi Mutual Life Aims at Wider Market *[KYODO]* 16
- Long-Term Energy Saving Program Formulated *[KYODO]* 16
- NTT Announces Experimental Broadband System *[KYODO]* 16
- Matsushita To Ship Rechargeable Batteries *[KYODO]* 16
- NEC Begins New Fabrication Process for LSI's *[KYODO]* 17

Mongolia

- Small Hural Passes Law on Government Structure *[Ulaanbaatar International]* ... 17
- Byambasuren Grants Interview on New Government *[Ulaanbaatar International]* ... 17

North Korea

- Further Coverage of Japanese Official Visit ... 18
  - KYODO Reviews Activities ... 18
  - Kim Wants Normalization Talks *[KYODO]* ... 19
  - More on Kim's Proposal *[KYODO]* ... 19
  - Kim Denies Nuclear Capability *[KYODO]* ... 20
  - Visitors Present Gift *[KCNA]* ... 20
  - Functionaries Begin Talks *[Pyongyang Radio]* ... 20
  - WPK-LDP Talks Reported *[KCNA]* ... 20
  - Party Officials Meet JSP *[KCNA]* ... 21
  - Delegation Attends Circus *[KCNA]* ... 21
- South Urged To Discard 'Antinational Stand' *[KCNA]* ... 22
- Official Against 'Military Intervention' in Gulf *[KYODO]* ... 22
- Military Sources Report Air Strike Exercises *[KCNA]* ... 22
- U.S. 'Must' Remove Nuclear Weapons From South *[KCNA]* ... 23
- Kim Il-song Greets Malian President Traore *[KCNA]* ... 23
- Generals, Officers Attend Bulgarian Party *[KCNA]* ... 24
- O Chin-u Sends Greeting to Bulgarian Counterpart *[KCNA]* ... 24
- O Chin-u Greets Mozambican Defense Minister *[KCNA]* ... 24
- World Maritime Day Marked by Lectures *[KCNA]* ... 24
- Science Delegation Departs, Journalists Arrive *[KCNA]* ... 24
- Kim Yong-nam Meets New Guinean Ambassador *[KCNA]* ... 24
- Han Pong-ha Appointed Ambassador to Vanuatu *[KCNA]* ... 24
- Asiad Scientific Conference Held in Beijing *[KCNA]* ... 25
- Central Committee Greets Netherlands CP Head *[KCNA]* ... 25
- Papers Mark Republic of Mali's 30th Anniversary *[KCNA]* ... 25
- Movement To Win 'Red Flag' Stressed *[Pyongyang Radio]* ... 25
- 'Large Quantities' of Methanol Produced *[KCNA]* ... 27
- Importance of Collective Self-Reliance Declared *[KCNA]* ... 28
- New Latex Process To Increase Production *[KCNA]* ... 28
- Decree on Awarding Honorary Title Issued *[Pyongyang Radio]* ... 29
- Construction of Revolution Exhibition Reported *[KCNA]* ... 29

South Korea

- Date Set for Second Round of N-S Working Talks *[TONG-A ILBO 26 Sep]* ... 29
- Editorial Views Seoul-Tokyo-Pyongyang Relations *[SEOUL SINMUN 25 Sep]* ... 29
- Kim-Deng Meeting 'Confirmed' by Chinese Source *[Seoul Radio]* ... 30
- DPRK Ambassador to USSR Still in Pyongyang *[YONHAP]* ... 30
- DPRK 'Understands' Moscow-Seoul Relations *[HANGUK ILBO 25 Sep]* ... 30
- Secret Meeting Reported With Pak, Yi in Beijing *[YONHAP]* ... 31
  - Seoul Claims No Knowledge *[TONG-A ILBO 27 Sep]* ... 31
- Chon Kum-chol 'Secretly' Visits Beijing *[SEOUL SINMUN 25 Sep]* ... 31
- Choe To Meet PRC Foreign Minister in New York *[KYONGHYANG SINMUN 27 Sep]* ... 31
- Seoul, Beijing Mayors To Promote Exchanges *[THE KOREA TIMES 27 Sep]* ... 31
- Direct China Flights Likely After Asiad *[YONHAP]* ... 32
- China Allows Hyundai To Hire 'Ethnic Koreans' *[YONHAP]* ... 32
- Soviet Consul-General in Seoul Interviewed *[Seoul Radio]* ... 32
- Soviets in Seoul Donate Funds for Flood Victims *[THE KOREA HERALD 27 Sep]* ... 33
- Trade Minister Meets With Soviet Official *[YONHAP]* ... 33
- Japan Accused of 'Foot-Dragging' on Agreement *[YONHAP]* ... 33
- Visiting Vietnamese Economist Urges Investment *[THE KOREA HERALD 27 Sep]* ... 33
- Economic Cooperation With Vietnam Likely in 1991 *[CHOSON ILBO 25 Sep]* ... 34

Financial Sector Threatened by Uruguay Round *[THE KOREA HERALD 27 Sep]* 34
Minister Calls for Review of IMF Quotas *[YONHAP]* 35
Meeting To Promote Trade With Hungary Opens *[YONHAP]* 35
Electronic Exports to East Bloc Triple in 1990 *[THE KOREA HERALD 27 Sep]* 36
Companies Sign Contracts at World Trade Fair *[THE KOREA HERALD 27 Sep]* 36
Seoul, Oslo Agree to Economic Cooperation *[THE KOREA TIMES 26 Sep]* 36
President No Awards Prize to IOC's Samaranch *[YONHAP]* 36
Editorial on New Direction for Student Groups *[TONG-A ILBO 23 Sep]* 37
Government To Absorb Foreign Oil Price Rise *[YONHAP]* 37
Liberalization of Shipping Industry Due in 1992 *[THE KOREA HERALD 27 Sep]* 38
Samsung To Sell Cable Television to Soviets *[YONHAP]* 38
* Slowdown in Export Industries Reported *[HANGUK KYONGJE SINMUN 14,15 Jul]* 38

SOUTHEAST ASIA

Burma

EC Protests Detention of Embassy Workers *[AFP]* 43
Monks 'Excommunicating' Armed Forces Members *[AFP]* 43
Radio Reports Three Arrested for Publications *[Rangoon Radio]* 44
UN, Thai Drug Control Groups Continue Visit 44
    Meet Phone Myint *[Rangoon Radio]* 44
    Thai Group Meets Khin Nyunt *[Rangoon Radio]* 44
    Officials Discuss Cooperation *[Rangoon Radio]* 45

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Abu Hassan Urges UN Action Against Israel *[BERNAMA]* 45

Singapore

Joint Economic Commission With USSR Reported *[THE STRAITS TIMES 24 Sep]* 45

Cambodia

Sihanouk Blames Allies for Rejecting Hun Sen *[AFP]* 46
Son Sann Interviewed After Bangkok Meeting *[Radio VOK]* 46
VODK Urges Following Jakarta, UN Documents 46
VODK Cites SRV Troop Presence as Obstacle 47
Political Bureau Approves Heng Samrin Report *[SPK]* 47
Chea Soth Receives New Soviet Ambassador 25 Sep *[Phnom Penh Radio]* 47
Hun Sen Allows Red Cross To Visit Prisoners *[AFP]* 48
Tie Banh Closes Infantry Training Course *[Phnom Penh Radio]* 48
Say Phuthang Welcomes 1990-1991 Academic Year *[Phnom Penh Radio]* 48
Paper Warns of Attacks in 'Immediate Future' *[Phnom Penh Radio]* 49
Kompong Thom Forces Reportedly Kill 258 in Aug *[Phnom Penh Radio]* 50
Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchey Actions Reported *[Phnom Penh Radio]* 50

Indonesia

PRC Embassy in Jakarta Opens After 23 Years *[AFP]* 50
Minister Says Economic Deregulation To Continue *[ANTARA]* 50
Alatas Expresses Concern Over Gulf Situation *[ANTARA]* 51
Suharto Calls for Greater ASEAN Cooperation *[AFP]* 51
Suharto, Visiting Malaysian King Hold Talks *[ANTARA]* 51
Norway Frees Textile Exports From Quota *[ANTARA]* 51

Laos

- Technical Talks on Border Held With PRC *[Vientiane Radio]* ... 52
- Deputy Trade Minister Signs Fair Contract *[KPL]* ... 52
- 110 Vehicles Ordered From USSR for 1990 *[KPL]* ... 52
- Young People Show 'Patriotism' in Joining Army *[KPL]* ... 52

Philippines

- Manglapus Endorses Japan's UN Peace Plan *[KYODO]* ... 53
- Reportage on U.S. Bases Issue Continues ... 53
  - Comment on Clark Conversion Plan *[THE MANILA CHRONICLE 27 Sep]* ... 53
  - Ramos on Joint Bases Use *[Quezon City Radio]* ... 54
  - Manglapus-Baker Agenda Viewed *[MALAYA 26 Sep]* ... 54
- Bombing Incidents, Explosions Continue ... 55
  - 12 Hurt in Mindoro Occidental *[MALAYA 26 Sep]* ... 55
  - Manila Building Incident Noted *[Manila Radio]* ... 55
  - Military Officers Linked to Bombs *[MANILA BULLETIN 26 Sep]* ... 55
  - More on Rebel Army Lieutenant *[Manila Radio]* ... 55
  - Military Admits Inability *[Manila Radio]* ... 56
  - Explosion Near Clark Air Base *[Quezon City Radio]* ... 56
  - Bombs Hit U.S. Multinational Firms *[AFP]* ... 56
  - Further on Explosions at Firms *[Manila Radio]* ... 57
  - Two Terrorist Suspects Arrested *[THE MANILA CHRONICLE 27 Sep]* ... 57
  - Rebels 'Responsible' for Bombings *[Quezon City Radio]* ... 57
  - AFP Chief Asks for Public Support *[Manila Radio]* ... 57
- League of Leagues Starts National Peace Campaign *[MANILA BULLETIN 27 Sep]* ... 57
- Aquino Reconsiders Initiative Toward Communists *[THE MANILA CHRONICLE 26 Sep]* ... 58
- Government To Discuss Kintanar's Announcement *[BUSINESS WORLD 26 Sep]* ... 58
- Communists Scrap Accord; To Intensify Attacks *[Manila Radio]* ... 59
- Extension of Cease-Fire Said Considered *[Manila Radio]* ... 59
- Luzon Officials Ordered To Probe Peace Offers *[Manila Radio]* ... 59
- General Admits Recruitment Efforts by Rebels *[Manila Radio]* ... 59
- Troopers Wounded in Clash With Noble Supporters *[PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER 22 Sep]* ... 60
- NPA Attacks Military Vehicle in Mountains *[Manila Radio]* ... 60
- Aquino Invokes Commander in Chief Powers *[Quezon City Radio]* ... 60
- Official: Aquino Possesses Sufficient Strength *[Manila Radio]* ... 61
- PC-INP Restructuring in Southern Mindanao *[MANILA BULLETIN 26 Sep]* ... 61
- Communist Leader in Southern Leyte Arrested *[Manila Radio]* ... 61
- Detained Communist Leaders Seek Bailable Charge *[THE MANILA CHRONICLE 27 Sep]* ... 61
- Exploitation of Government Vulnerability Viewed *[THE MANILA CHRONICLE 26 Sep]* ... 62
- Ramos Claims RAM Adopting Communist Strategies *[DIYARYO FILIPINO 27 Sep]* ... 62
- Noble Says RAM-Ramos Alliance 'Possible' *[PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER 22 Sep]* ... 63
- Radio Commentator Reads Honasan's Open Letter *[Quezon City Radio]* ... 63
- New Oil Price Hike Takes Effect; Senate Reacts *[Manila Radio]* ... 64
  - Aquino Dismisses Threats *[Manila Radio]* ... 65
- Two KMU 'High-Ranking' Officials Killed *[Manila Radio]* ... 65
- Enrile Challenges Aquino To Hold Snap Election *[Manila Radio]* ... 66
- LDP To Become 'More Independent' of Malacanang *[THE MANILA CHRONICLE 14 Sep]* ... 66
- Columnist Views Ramos' Plan for 1992 Polls *[BUSINESS WORLD 27 Sep]* ... 67
- Assistance Assured for Cordillera Residents *[Manila Radio]* ... 67
- Military, Media Sign Accord on Press Freedom *[Manila Radio]* ... 68
- Agricultural Growth in 1st Half of 1990 Reported *[THE MANILA CHRONICLE 11 Sep]* ... 68

Thailand

- Chatchai Proposes Vientiane for SNC Meeting *[BANGKOK POST 27 Sep]* ... 69
- Armed Forces Spokesman on Border Situation *[Bangkok TV]* ... 69
- Chatchai Supports Montri, Telephone Expansion *[BANGKOK POST 22 Sep]* ... 69

Vietnam

Commentary on SNC Participation in UN Session *[Hanoi International]* 70
NHAN DAN on Cambodia Since Troop Pullout *[Hanoi Radio]* 71
Hanoi on Sports Officials Meeting in Beijing 72
Vo Nguyen Giap Tours Beijing Technical Zone *[Hanoi Radio]* 72
    Leaves China for Home *[Hanoi Radio]* 72
NHAN DAN Views Impact of Gulf Crisis *[Hanoi Radio]* 72
NHAN DAN Urges End to Boat People Exodus *[AFP]* 73
Tran Duc Luong Attends Conference in Geneva *[VNA]* 74
Friendship Order Conferred on Soviet Officials *[VNA]* 74
Mining Venture Established With Australia *[VNA]* 74

Japan

Cheney Urges Role in Gulf Peacekeeping Force

OW1309030590 Tokyo KYODO in English 0120 GMT 13 Sep 90

[Text] Washington, Sept. 12 KYODO—U.S. Defense Secretary Dick Cheney on Wednesday stressed the need for Japan to play a global role commensurate with its economic power and urged it to take part in "multinational peacekeeping activities." Cheney made the request to a group of parliamentarians from the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), headed by former Foreign Minister Tadashi Kuranari, officials accompanying the group said.

Cheney was quoted as telling the group that the United States and Japan, as two economic powers in the world, should cope with global issues such as the Persian Gulf crisis in the post-Cold War era. The U.S. defense chief also expressed strong expectations that Japan will put through ongoing legislative measures aimed at enabling Japanese personnel to participate more actively in various United Nations peacekeeping activities.

The Japanese Government is planning to enact what it calls a "UN Peace Cooperation Law" because under Japan's current legal framework and provisions of the Constitution the dispatch of personnel to troubled areas of the world is strictly limited.

Cheney said that the U.S. will continue calling for withdrawal of Soviet military advisers from Iraq and will immediately counter any further Iraqi military action, according to the officials.

In a meeting Tuesday with the Japanese lawmakers, Undersecretary of State Robert Kimmitt also called for Japan's early implementation of aid measures for countries neighboring Iraq and its participation in the multinational forces action in the Gulf within the framework of the Constitution.

Official Welcomes Bush Gulf Crisis Aid Plan

OW2609122190 Tokyo KYODO in English 1107 GMT 26 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 26 KYODO—A senior Finance Ministry official on Wednesday welcomed U.S. President George Bush's proposal for an international clearing house to coordinate financial help for nations hit hardest by the Gulf crisis. "We've had the same thing in mind," the official told a press briefing on condition of anonymity.

In a speech to the annual meetings of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and World Bank in Washington, Bush called for the formation of a Gulf crisis financial coordination group to help "transform commitments into concrete contributions." Bush said such a group would comprise the United States, Japan, West Germany, and other major industrial countries as well as Gulf nations such as Saudi Arabia, and the IMF and the World Bank.

The ministry official, reiterating Japan's stance, said that the IMF and the World Bank should play a key role in providing financial aid to the most seriously affected countries. "It's not so meaningful for only Japan to offer economic support to the frontline countries. Such support must revolve around international institutions," he said.

Spokesman Welcomes U.S. Move on Oil Reserves

OW2709055990 Tokyo KYODO in English 0510 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 27 KYODO—A Japanese oil industry spokesman said Thursday the industry welcomes President George Bush's partial release of U.S. strategic oil reserves to put a lid on soaring oil prices. Koichi Hasegawa, manager of the Overseas Research Department of the Petroleum Association of Japan, said, "Although the amount of the announced sale from the U.S. reserves is relatively small, it will have a enormous psychological impact on the market."

Bush announced Wednesday that the U.S. will sell five million barrels of its emergency oil reserves on the market.

Hasegawa said overseas oil futures markets have been overheated by speculation caused by the Gulf crisis. He said, "Bush's move is quite good in terms of promoting a correction in the market." But he was skeptical about the possibility that Japan will follow the U.S. move. "Oil imports are not being disrupted. There is no reason why Japanese companies should follow the U.S. initiative at the moment," he said.

MITI Not To Follow

OW2709055890 Tokyo KYODO in English 0345 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 27 KYODO—Japan will not follow a U.S. move to release part of its emergency oil reserves to allay panic over rising oil prices, officials of the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) said Thursday.

U.S. President George Bush on Wednesday decided on the sales of five million barrels of crude oil from the nation's 590 million barrel reserves in a bid to calm panicky financial markets. Oil prices have almost doubled since Iraq's August 2 invasion of Kuwait, hitting 10-year highs of around 40 dollars a barrel on spot markets. Iraqi President Saddam Husayn's remarks Sunday hinting at attacks on Gulf oil fields further fueled the market fears, sending up oil prices and depressing stock prices worldwide.

Officials of MITI's Agency of Natural Resources and Energy said they believe the announced U.S. sale of five million barrels from the oil reserves is intended only to test its effect in containing the rise of oil prices. One of the officials said, "We have not heard of any plan by the U.S. to seek internationally concerted sales of crude oil from the countries' reserves at the meeting of the International Energy Agency to be held in Paris from Friday."

MITI has decided against tapping into the reserves until there is an actual shortage of oil supply in the market, the officials said. Japan had 521.50 million barrels of crude oil reserves in both the private and public sectors at the end of August.

Draft Bill for Dispatch of Troops Approved

OW2609153890 Tokyo KYODO in English 1509 GMT 26 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 26 KYODO—The government and ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) on Wednesday decided on a draft bill to allow for the dispatch of Self-Defense Force (SDF) personnel overseas to help the United Nations' peacekeeping efforts, sources said.

Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu will give a briefing on the draft bill at a press conference on Thursday afternoon.

The outline of the draft, formulated by the government the same day, contains provisions designed to allay domestic and regional concerns that the proposed new law may lead to a revival of Japanese militarism. Under the terms of a U.N. peace cooperation bill, a Japanese team would remain under the civilian control of a headquarters controlled by the prime minister and would be limited to noncombat roles.

Kaifu obtained basic agreement on the bill from former Prime Ministers Yasuhiro Nakasone and Noboru Takeshita and top LDP leaders when he met them for talks on Wednesday, the sources said.

Similar consent was gained from leaders of intraparty factions in meetings with Chief Cabinet Secretary Misoji Sakamoto, they said. Kaifu also sought cooperation in a subsequent meeting of cabinet ministers on national security affairs.

As a result of these consultations, it was agreed that the SDF personnel mentioned in the draft bill to join the peace cooperation team would retain their status as SDF officials throughout their period of service overseas, but would not carry out SDF duties, the sources said.

Agreement was also reached that no revision of the SDF law be contemplated for formation of the Japanese peacekeeping team, an apparent effort to avoid concern among Japan's Asian neighbors, who remember the sufferings inflicted by Japanese imperialism before and during World War II.

The government and top ruling party leaders also agreed to insert a supplementary clause in the bill to limit the roles of the Japanese unit members to observing ceasefires, managing elections, transportation, communications, relief of refugees, and medical assistance, the sources said.

Members of the peacekeeping force will be selected from a wide field of civilians and government officials, they said.

Debate on whether to allow the Japanese team sent overseas to bear light firearms for defense purposes will be pursued in later consultations between the Foreign Ministry, the Defense Agency, and other government agencies concerned.

The bill is to be submitted to an extraordinary Diet session in mid-October, the sources said.

Kaifu has launched the plan in a response to overseas criticisms that Japan should contribute more to the multinational forces in the Persian Gulf than the financial cooperation so far pledged. Meeting the press at his official residence, the prime minister emphasized he had gained full support for the plan from his predecessors and ruling party echelons.

Kaifu Outlines Bill

OW2709095090 Tokyo KYODO in English 0851 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 27 KYODO—Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu on Thursday announced an outline of a government-proposed legislation to allow the dispatch of Japanese Self-Defense Forces (SDF) personnel overseas to cooperate in United Nations peacekeeping efforts.

The outline of the proposed legislation, tentatively called the United Nations Peace Cooperation Bill, calls for the formation of a UN Peace Cooperation Corps under the control of a civilian headquarters headed by the prime minister. The corps would serve a noncombat role overseas within the framework of UN peacekeeping resolutions and the war-renouncing Japanese Constitution. Among the roles would be to provide transport services, maintain materials and equipment, and provide communications facilities and medical assistance.

Kaifu announced the proposal in response to overseas criticism that Japan should contribute more to the multinational forces in the Persian Gulf than the financial cooperation it already has pledged. The legislation will be presented to the Diet session which is likely to be convened in mid-October, government officials said.

Further Kaifu Remarks

OW2709120990 Tokyo KYODO in English 1016 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 27 KYODO—Japan on Thursday moved toward breaking a long-held postwar taboo—the overseas dispatch of Self Defense Forces (SDF) on a peacekeeping mission. Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu announced the outline of a draft United Nations Peace

Cooperation Law designed to allow a part of the organization or personnel of the SDF to participate in global peacemaking and peace-keeping efforts.

Japan's war-renouncing Constitution bans the use of force as a means of settling international disputes and current laws prohibit the dispatch of the SDF abroad and participation in collective defense.

In view of concern at home and among other Asian countries that the proposed new legislation may lead to a revival of Japanese military power, the draft bill strictly limits the activities of the projected UN peace cooperation corps, including SDF members, to be sent abroad in nonmilitary areas, Kaifu said. Under the terms of the proposed bill, the Japanese UN Peace Cooperation Corps would be dispatched in principle without arms to noncombat areas.

In a nationally televised press conference at his official residence, Kaifu stressed that "Japan will support UN peacekeeping activities as much as possible in nonmilitary areas."

The draft bill, which the Government plans to submit to an extraordinary Diet session in mid-October, however, is expected to draw criticism from opposition parties and Japan's neighboring Asian nations which suffered from invasion by Japan before and during World War II.

Asked about concern over a possible expansion of Japanese military strength, Kaifu said "Japan determined not to become a military power after the end of World War II. "Tokyo will brief other Asian nations on the duties of the Peace Cooperation Corps and seek their understanding," Kaifu said.

Kaifu refused to specify if the proposed bill will include a clause allowing SDF members of the Peace Cooperation Corps to retain their status as military officials during their service overseas.

The Defense Agency and Diet members from the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) lobbying for the agency have urged Kaifu to incorporate the clause into the bill while the Foreign Ministry has insisted that SDF members join the peace team after they are relieved of their positions in the SDF, government sources said. The sources said the draft bill stipulates a peace cooperation corps headquarters, headed by Kaifu, and a separate ministerial council to maintain civilian control of the team.

The Japanese peace team would be dispatched only within the framework of UN peacekeeping resolutions and the war-renouncing Japanese Constitution. "Japan should support UN peacekeeping operations within the constitutional framework to help the world body fulfill its functions," Kaifu said.

The proposed bill cites eight fields as duties the Japanese peace cooperation team would engage in—observing ceasefires, monitoring and managing elections, transportation, communications, medical care, relief of refugees, restoration work in war-damaged areas, and maintenance and repair of equipment, the sources said. The draft declares that the Japanese UN Peace Cooperation Corps would never pose a military threat or take any military action, they said.

Under the proposed code, the plan to send the Peace Cooperation Corps would be approved by a cabinet meeting after a request for such action by the foreign minister.

Members of the peacekeeping team will be selected from a wide field of civilians and government officials, the sources said.

The prime minister appealed to the public to join the peacekeeping corps to actively contribute to building a new world order in the post-cold war era. Kaifu said, "I want to brief world leaders on Japan's position seeking peaceful settlement of international disputes when I meet them during my 12-day overseas tour."

Kaifu is scheduled to leave Tokyo on Friday for the United States, Egypt, Jordan, Turkey, Saudi Arabia, and Oman. In New York, he will attend the UN-sponsored world summit for children and meet U.S. President George Bush.

Japan has pledged 2 billion dollars to support U.S.-led multinational forces in the Gulf and another 2 billion dollars to assist nations hit economically by the Gulf crisis, particularly Egypt, Jordan, and Turkey. Tokyo has also offered to provide 24 million dollars to aid refugees in Jordan fleeing Iraq and Iraqi-occupied Kuwait and to send some 100 medical staff to the Middle East. However, Japan has been under international pressure, especially from Washington, to give more than a financial contribution to help restore peace and stability in the Gulf region.

Diet To Discuss Law

OW2709042990 Tokyo KYODO in English 0327 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 27 KYODO—The cabinet of Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu will convene the Diet in mid-October with the main business on the agenda being to enact a proposed U.N. Peace Cooperation Law enabling the dispatch abroad of noncombatant troops to assist in U.N. peacekeeping activities, officials said Thursday.

Kaifu and the secretary general of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), Ichiro Ozawa, met in the morning and reached the decision. They also agreed to set up an ad hoc committee in both houses of the Diet to handle the proposed bill designed to create a "U.N. Peace Cooperation Corps" to be sent to trouble spots. Noncombatant personnel from the Self-Defense Forces (SDF) will join the proposed corps, officials said.

The Diet will go into a monthlong extraordinary session soon after Kaifu returns home October 9 from a 12-day visit to the United States and five Middle East countries, officials said. The extraordinary session will close before the November 12 enthronement ceremony of Emperor Akihito.

The government has proposed the new legislation to enable it to send noncombatant SDF personnel abroad. The Japanese Constitution renounces the threat or use of force as means of settling international disputes, while the Self-Defense Forces law bans the sending abroad of SDF personnel.

Parties Object to Bill

OW2709125690 Tokyo KYODO in English 1214 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 27 KYODO—Japan Socialist Party Chairwoman Takako Doi on Thursday told Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu that Japan should not send its Self-Defence Forces (SDF) to the Persian Gulf.

"The Government should not dispatch SDF forces overseas in any form," said Doi in a meeting with Kaifu. She referred to a proposed UN peace cooperation bill to pave the way for dispatching noncombat SDF personnel to the multinational forces in the Gulf region. Doi, head of Japan's largest opposition party, also said that the Japanese Constitution prohibits the forces from being sent to the Middle East and other countries.

But Kaifu flatly rejected Doi's objection, saying Japan must achieve its global role in the United Nations by sending the SDF forces to the Middle East for noncombat peacekeeping UN activities.

Doi told Kaifu that the JSP wonders if the Government will send the SDF personnel to Saudi Arabia, as the U.S. Government asked it to do.

Following the Doi meeting, Kaifu met Komeito Chairman Koshiro Ishida. Ishida, leader of Japan's second largest opposition party, said his party rejected the Government's proposal to send the SDF overseas. Ishida also said the party opposed sending SDF personnel to the Middle East, as stipulated in the proposed law.

Kaifu said the Government wants the Komeito to discuss the matter thoroughly in the extraordinary session of parliament to be held from mid-October, when the government will attempt to pass the UN Peace Cooperation Bill. Komeito is a key party to enable the bill to pass parliament, as opposition parties have enjoyed a comfortable majority in the House of Councilors of the Diet since July 1989.

The bill will not become a law unless it passes both the Upper House and the House of Representatives of the Diet. The Lower House is dominated by the ruling Liberal Democratic Party.

Meanwhile, Democratic Socialist Party Chairman Keigo Ouchi, in a meeting with Kaifu, praised the Government's effort to set up the UN Peace Cooperation Corps. Ouchi said Japan should support the United Nations both financially and with SDF personnel.

JSP Report on Smaller SDF, Restrictions

OW2609154390 Tokyo KYODO in English 1455 GMT 26 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 26 KYODO—The top opposition Japan Socialist Party (JSP) should accept the Self-Defense Forces (SDF) as constitutional if they are trimmed into a purely defensive force, a JSP Committee on Security Affairs said Wednesday.

The present SDF violates the Constitution, but the JSP will do its utmost to trim the forces to accommodate the restrictions of Japan's war-renouncing Constitution, the committee said in a report likely to shape party policy.

In September 1989, JSP Chairwoman Takako Doi said her party would recognize the existence of the SDF. Since then, party leaders have softened their stand, saying the SDF's existence, while against the Constitution, is unavoidable under present circumstances.

The JSP should allow a certain period of time for the SDF to be trimmed, Wednesday's report said. Japan should reorganize its defense budget and military equipment so the SDF has only the capability to defend Japan's own territorial land, sea and airspace, the report said.

The committee called for concrete confidence-building measures to assure Asian countries that the SDF is no threat to them. It also urged Japanese efforts to cooperate with U.N. peacekeeping forces and the tightening of civilian control over the SDF.

The JSP will further discuss the report in a policy meeting to be held on October 7.

JSP Supports SDF, Two-Stage Reform

OW1209202390 Tokyo KYODO in English 1449 GMT 12 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 12 (KYODO)—Under security policy guidelines adopted Wednesday, the Japan Socialist Party (JSP) will support the existence of Japan's Self-Defense Forces (SDF) as long as they are used solely to defend Japanese territory, JSP officials said.

The guidelines also said the JSP should drop its demand for the immediate scrapping of the Japan-U.S. Security Treaty, although keeping that as a long-term goal, the officials said.

The party's policy committee unanimously approved the guidelines. The officials said the panel discussed policy on the Japan-U.S. Security Treaty, the Self-Defense Forces and disarmament in the aftermath of the end of the cold war between the United States and the Soviet Union.

Japan should maintain its ban on sending the SDF overseas, the guidelines said.

The guidelines hinted that the JSP will recognize the existence of the SDF within the framework of the Japanese Constitution, saying the forces should be reformed in two stages.

The first stage is to ban large-scale military drills, said the guidelines, adding that drills should not be conducted outside Japanese territory. In the second stage, the forces would be reorganized in terms of equipment and organization to the minimum level necessary to defend Japan.

Japan should give priority to ensuring its security by nonmilitary means, the guidelines said. The panel of Japan's largest opposition party also said civilian control should be maintained over the SDF.

The guidelines also urged the maintenance of the three nonnuclear policies of not introducing nuclear weapons to Japan, not making the weapons and not possessing them. The document also called for strict observance of prior consultations between Japan and the United States before Washington brings nuclear weapons into Japan as stipulated in the security treaty.

The guidelines will be discussed in a party policy meeting starting October 7 after they are presented to the party's policy research forum by the end of this month, JSP officials said.

Coordination Group Approves 'Frontline' Funds

OW2709020590 Tokyo KYODO in English 0036 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] Washington, Sept. 26 KYODO—A multilateral coordination group, led by the United States, agreed Wednesday to extend untied financial resources to the so-called "frontline" nations, hard hit by the Persian Gulf crisis and the resulting higher crude oil prices, within this year, U.S. and Japanese Government officials said. The agreement was reached during the first round meeting of the multilateral coordination group, initiated by U.S. President George Bush and attended by the U.S., Japan, European countries, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, and the European Community (EC), they said. Three countries—Egypt, Jordan, and Turkey—were designated as "frontline."

The "emergency and short-term" funds will be offered on a bilateral basis and will be unconditional, they said. The group agreed on the establishment of a task force team to iron out details concerning the scale of the funds and the agenda for the next meeting October 12, they said.

Wednesday's meeting, held at the Treasury Department, was chaired by Treasury Undersecretary for International Affairs David Mulford.

Nakayama, EC Agree To Discuss Emergency Aid

OW2709015090 Tokyo KYODO in English 0057 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] New York, Sept. 26 KYODO—Japan and the 12-nation European Community agreed Wednesday to address through the Group of 24 (G-24) the issue of emergency aid to East European countries affected by the Persian Gulf crisis. The agreement was reached in an hourlong meeting between Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama and EC leaders, a Japanese official said. The official said the G-24 countries are expected to hold working-level meetings shortly to discuss emergency economic aid to East European countries and other countries.

The EC team at the meeting with Nakayama included Foreign Ministers Gianni de Michelis of Italy, the nation which chairs the EC Council of Ministers; Jacques Poos of Luxembourg, the next chairman; Gerald Collins of Ireland, the former chairman; and EC Commission Vice President Frans Andriessen.

Andriessen said the EC, Japan, the United States, and other donor countries should expand their emergency aid beyond the three front-line states of Egypt, Turkey, and Jordan, the official reported at a news briefing.

Nakayama noted that some Asian countries have also been severely affected by the Gulf crisis but gave no indication whether Japan is prepared to provide them with special assistance.

On China, de Michelis said the so-called "EC troika" and Andriessen will meet Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen in New York on Friday, representing their first contact since the military crackdown on pro-democracy demonstrators in Beijing's Tiananmen Square in June 1989. "I think the EC is moving toward the Japanese line when it comes to the China issue," the Japanese official said, speaking on condition he not be identified. Japan has decided to resume economic aid to Beijing, arguing an economically open China will lead to a more democratic country.

The Japanese official quoted Andriessen as saying the EC Council of Ministers will meet next month to discuss an expansion of trade and economic relations with the Soviet Union. Nakayama told the EC leaders, "Japan-Soviet relations will improve dramatically if the northern territories question is resolved." He was referring to Japan's longstanding call for the return of four Soviet-occupied islands off Japan's northern main island of Hokkaido.

Nakayama also called for the strengthening of trilateral dialogue among Japan, the EC, and the U.S., the official said.

Asked by de Michelis about Japan's thoughts on the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe

(CSCE), Nakayama said Japan hopes to maintain "systematic" contacts with the 35-nation group, the official said.

JOC Likely To Follow IOC Stance on Kuwait

OW1409144090 Tokyo KYODO in English 1403 GMT 14 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 14 KYODO—The Japanese Olympic Committee (JOC) is likely to respect the stance of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) in supporting Kuwait, members of the JOC Executive Board said Friday.

On Thursday, the IOC expressed clear support for the Kuwait National Olympic Committee and urged the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA) to take "appropriate measures" to ensure the success of the Beijing Asian Games. The IOC statement was made at an executive board meeting in Tokyo.

The JOC board members said the IOC statement could be taken to mean that Iraq should not take part in the Beijing Asian Games, opening September 22, although it did not say so directly. The JOC must decide how to vote in a special OCA session September 20 on Iraq's participation in the games.

The board members said a majority of JOC members seem to support the IOC posture and acknowledge that Iraq's exclusion from the games may be inevitable for their success. They added that, unless there is a significant change in the Persian Gulf situation, the JOC is likely to make a decision in line with the IOC statement.

The JOC is scheduled to hold an emergency executive board meeting next Tuesday to discuss how it will vote at the OCA special session on Thursday. The JOC may not immediately announce its attitude after the meeting, however, considering that Iraq is holding a number of Japanese hostages, they said. They said the time has come to clarify their stance, adding that the JOC is prepared to ask other Asian nations to act in unison with it.

Airline President on Fare Hikes, Aid to Gulf

OW2609140590 Tokyo KYODO in English 1158 GMT 26 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 26 KYODO—Japan Airlines Co., Japan's largest airline, is considering raising ticket prices for international flights from Tokyo to take account of soaring jet fuel prices, its president said Wednesday.

"I want to avoid raising such airfares by making in-house efforts to offset the increased fuel cost, but such a hike is under consideration," Matsuo Toshimitsu told reporters. But Toshimitsu said he would wait to see how world oil prices will be settled before deciding whether to raise the cost of international air tickets. He said, however, there was no possibility of domestic flight fares being raised.

The International Air Transport Association (IATA) agreed last month on raising international airfares, but put off for further study a plan to raise fares on flights from Tokyo due to opposition from JAL and All Nippon Airways Co.

On other issues, Toshimitsu disclosed that his company has been told by the Transport Ministry that JAL is not required to provide cargo carriers for medical supplies and other nonmilitary equipment for the multinational force against Iraq, deployed mainly in Saudi Arabia.

Yielding to pressure from the United States, the Japanese Government has pledged to provide airplanes and ships as part of its contribution to the international efforts to end Iraq's occupation of Kuwait.

According to government sources, Japan has not yet received any actual request from the United States to send aircraft, and Tokyo has no plans to transport nonmilitary supplies on its own.

The JAL president said he is ready to offer aircraft whenever the U.S. requests.

Perez de Cuellar, Nakayama Discuss Efforts

OW2709005990 Tokyo KYODO in English 2347 GMT 26 Sep 90

[Text] New York, Sept. 26 KYODO—U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar told Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama on Wednesday that the world body is counting on Japan's participation in U.N. peacekeeping activities in Cambodia and Western Sahara. Perez de Cuellar sought Japanese assistance in the two regional conflicts in which the U.N. has been trying to play a role in bringing the warring factions to the negotiating table, a Japanese official said.

The meeting between the two men was delayed by one day due to the passing of a new resolution Tuesday by the U.N. Security Council against air traffic to and from Iraq to protest its invasion of Kuwait and its holding of foreign hostages. The official said Nakayama expressed the hope that the latest resolution would help change the hard-line stance of Iraqi President Saddam Husayn.

Nakayama thanked Perez de Cuellar for his efforts to win the release of foreign hostages, the official told reporters.

Perez de Cuellar welcomed a Japanese move to enact a U.N. Peace Cooperation Law, saying it is "very timely and important" in view of the Persian Gulf crisis, the Japanese official said at a news briefing. The Japanese Government is currently working on details of the bill which is mainly designed to facilitate the dispatch of noncombat troops to assist in U.N. peacekeeping activities.

Turkish Envoy 'Supports' Wish for UN Seat

OW2709094090 Tokyo KYODO in English 0739 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 27 KYODO—Turkey supports Japan's wish to occupy a permanent seat on the United Nations Security Council, the Turkish envoy to Tokyo said Thursday. "This bid is already made, and we are evaluating it very positively," Ambassador Umut Arik said on the eve of Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu's departure for a visit to Turkey and four other Middle East nations.

Moves toward a new international order following the decline of East-West tensions and Japan's "overall universal presence" are factors for supporting a more prominent role for Japan at the United Nations, Arik said in an interview with KYODO NEWS SERVICE.

Japan is to be told of Turkey's views if Kaifu brings up the matter in talks with Turkish President Turgut Ozal during his October 4-6 visit to Turkey, Arik said. Kaifu will be the first Japanese premier to visit Turkey, which has borders with the Middle East, Europe, and Asia.

Japanese officials have quietly expressed interest in occupying a permanent seat on the Security Council, but say it is premature to make an open bid. A change in the structure of the Security Council would require the agreement of the five permanent members, as well as approval of two-thirds of the UN'S 159 member nations. The Security Council has 15 members, including the five permanent members that have veto power. The five are the United States, the Soviet Union, Britain, France, and China—the major powers that emerged victorious from World War II. The remaining 10 seats are rotated among countries elected every two years by the UN General Assembly, in accordance with the UN Charter. Japan last served as a nonpermanent member of the Security Council from 1987 to 1988.

Arik also said he personally agrees with Japan's call to revise the 1945 UN Charter to eliminate the "anachronistic" labeling of Japan as an enemy state. "With the present attitudes in Japan, one should consider the efforts entered in statutory reforms after World War II were successful," Arik said.

Arik said it is important to recognize Japan's strategic and political presence in the Asian region to "balance" newly emerging forces such as China, Vietnam, and India. "Rejecting a more stabilizing role for Japan in political and strategic areas is an anachronism, a remnant of World War II," he said.

Kaifu and Ozal are expected to discuss the Gulf crisis and exchange views on regional conflicts in Asia during the Japanese premier's visit to Turkey, Arik said. Turkey is expected to receive 200 million dollars in emergency commodity loans and other financial assistance from Japan to help mitigate economic hardships due to the UN sanctions imposed against Iraq for its August 2 invasion of Kuwait. Turkey stands to lose 5 billion to 7 billion dollars over the next year due to the cutoff of economic ties, Arik said.

Kaifu and Ozal are also expected to finalize an agreement on investment, and discussions during the visit will also cover other economic projects and the establishment of a new more direct air route between Turkey and Japan, Arik said.

Kaifu departs for the United Nations on Friday to attend a meeting on children. He is slated to leave New York on October 1 for a seven-day visit to Egypt, Jordan, Turkey, Saudi Arabia, and Oman.

Kaifu's Advisers Urge Wider International Role

OW2609123490 Tokyo KYODO in English 1049 GMT 26 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 26 KYODO—Japan should step up international activity to help resolve international problems by speaking up on behalf of all human beings, a private advisory body to Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu proposed Wednesday.

Such Japanese endeavor is necessary with the thaw in the cold war, and international situations such as Iraq's invasion of its small neighbor Kuwait on August 2, the panel said. The panel also recommended early establishment of a research center on environmental destruction, and expansion of facilities for introducing Japanese culture overseas, educational reforms for greater creativity, and promotion of women's advances in working society. These proposals were compiled after 12 sessions of debate and were contained in the final report submitted to Kaifu.

Kaifu inaugurated the "Confab for Thinking a Society in the 21st Century" [as received] in a bid to realize his political campaign for a fair and mentally rich society launched after taking his post in August last year. The private consultative group includes four women, including popular poetess Machi Tawara, and young intellectuals.

The report called Japan an advanced nation, contributing to global warming, depletion of the ozone layer, acid rain, and reduction in tropical forests, which pose a threat to human life.

The report said with scientific, technological, and economic might, Japan should do its utmost efforts to combat these environmental disruptions, and an environment problems research center should be established soon to promote scientific study on cause-effect relations.

The report said now that Japan has achieved a long-cherished society in which all can afford to eat, it should now consider how to contribute to international society.

Facilities to introduce Japanese culture overseas are too few compared with the efforts of Britain, West Germany, and other countries. Japanese culture halls are now located only in 11 countries, lands, and should be considerably expanded to deepen international exchanges. Assistance should also be boosted for research activities on Japanese culture overseas, it said.

Promotion of international exchanges is an effective means of breaking off the inclination to uniformity which has prevented development of individuality and creativity, while helping maintaining highly intensive culture and efficiency based on traditional harmony, according to the report.

Foreign nationals should be guaranteed in their roles in the country as a step toward truly opening the nation, and turning Japanese into more internationally-minded people, and foreign language education systems should be reviewed for this purpose, it said. Likewise, it said, reforms are needed in elementary and middle school education to correct the trend of cramming education and to realize each schoolchild's individual abilities.

There have been recent conspicuous changes in lifestyles, social independence of women and their growing participation in society. This has made it necessary for the state to take concrete measures to help women develop their abilities in society, the report said.

Rio Group Seeks 'Close Economic Relations'

OW2709013990 Tokyo KYODO in English 0010 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] New York, Sept. 26 KYODO—Latin American foreign ministers told Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama on Wednesday that they anticipate close economic relations with Japan in parallel with a U.S. initiative. Venezuela's Foreign Minister Reinaldo Figueredo, in a luncheon meeting between Nakayama and Latin American foreign ministers, expressed hopes for a high-level meeting in Tokyo on an expansion of Japanese-Latin American relations, a Japanese official said.

Reaction from Latin American countries to U.S. proposals on trade, investment, and debt forgiveness has been mixed, with some questioning whether they would help to improve inter-American relations.

Figueredo and foreign ministers from Brazil, Peru, and Uruguay expressed concern about the "grave effects" of high oil prices on their economies and other developing countries, the official said in a briefing to reporters.

Foreign Ministers Jose Francisco Rezek of Brazil and Domingo Cavallo of Argentina expressed the hope for an early resolution of the Persian Gulf crisis, characterizing it as a "lesson" for the post-cold war era, the Japanese official said.

Cavallo told Nakayama the Rio Group countries anticipate Japanese assistance in the areas of natural resources, telecommunications, and transportation, the official told reporters. He said Figueredo reported that the Rio Group has decided to accept Chile and Ecuador as new members.

Foreign Ministry Welcomes Accord With DPRK

OW2609145490 Tokyo KYODO in English 1432 GMT 26 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 26 KYODO—The Foreign Ministry on Wednesday welcomed an agreement reached by North Korean President Kim Il-song and a Japanese parliamentarian delegation to open government-level talks between the two countries.

A high-ranking Foreign Ministry official said he is delighted that the two sides reached agreement to open a government-level dialogue and to release two Japanese seamen detained by North Korea on spy charges since 1983.

Other ministry officials, however, said they are at a loss on how to handle the compensation issue, which North Korea regards as a precondition to improving ties between the two countries in the absence of full diplomatic relations.

Former Deputy Prime Minister Shin Kanemaru and Japan Socialist Party Vice Chairman Makoto Tanabe agreed in talks with Kim in the North Korean resort town of Myohyangsan on Wednesday to set up liaison offices in each other's country to facilitate negotiations on the compensation issue.

It is "impossible" for Japan to open negotiations with North Korea on compensation for the 1910-45 Japanese colonial rule of the Korean Peninsula unless the talks are held through diplomatic channels, a government source said Wednesday.

The Japanese Government will do "everything possible" to accommodate North Korea over the compensation issue, but negotiations are complex and cannot be done in the absence of diplomatic relations, the source said.

Kanemaru, who is currently on a five-day visit to North Korea, has said that Japan is responsible for solving the compensation issue whether or not it has diplomatic ties with North Korea.

North Korea is reluctant to establish formal diplomatic relations with Japan, fearing that such a move would keep the Korean Peninsula permanently divided and jeopardize its drive to unify North and South Korea.

Japan's Foreign Ministry has maintained that the compensation issue should be addressed in government-level talks when the two nations negotiate the establishment of diplomatic relations.

The current mission is regarded as a party-level, not governmental, contact.

Kaifu Welcomes Kim Il-song's 'Commitment'

OW2709031490 Tokyo KYODO in English 0242 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 27 KYODO—Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu on Thursday welcomed North Korean President Kim Il-song's commitment to release two Japanese seamen detained in North Korea on espionage charges since 1983. Kaifu told reporters he thinks "it is a good thing" that former Deputy Prime Minister Shin Kanemaru drew the basic agreement from the North Korean leader in talks in North Korea on Wednesday.

Kim, meeting Kanemaru and Japan Socialist Party Vice Chairman Makoto Tanabe at the North Korean mountain resort of Myohyangsan, promised to make a "lenient decision" on Isamu Beniko and Yoshio Kuriura, crew members of the Japanese freighter No. 18 Fujisan Maru. The two men were detained in North Korea in November 1983 after a North Korean stowed on board their vessel during a previous voyage to North Korea.

Kaifu Pleased With Progress in DPRK Talks

OW2709145790 Tokyo KYODO in English 1423 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 27 KYODO—Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu on Thursday welcomed a North Korean proposal to start negotiations on establishment of full diplomatic ties, saying it marks an historical milestone. Kaifu told reporters that the North Korean offer was "a very welcome development."

Meanwhile, a Foreign Ministry source showed a more cautious reaction, saying Japan will closely study the proposal in close contact with South Korea and the United States. The source said, "If the offer for the talks is genuine, it marks a definite policy change in North Korea."

North Korea previously refused to hold normalization negotiations with Japan, saying such moves will lead to permanent division of the Korean peninsula.

The source, however, added that Tokyo will have to sound out the views of South Korea and the United States before starting the normalization process with Pyongyang. The source said it is difficult for Japan to push ahead with the normalization talks with North Korea ahead of inter-Korean talks. North and South Korea are scheduled to hold a second round of talks between their prime ministers in mid-October in Pyongyang.

Tokyo will prepare for the normalization talks, including compensation demanded by Pyongyang, after a detailed report from Yutaka Kawashima, a counselor at the ministry's Asian Affairs Bureau involved in talks with the North Korea Foreign Ministry, when he returns home, the source said.

The source cited three points as reasons for the North Korean normalization proposal a crippled domestic economy, growing isolation of North Korea amid sweeping democratic changes in East Europe, and rapidly closer relations between South Korea and the Soviet Union.

Kaifu Approves Proposal for Oil Loans to USSR

OW2609140790 Tokyo KYODO in English 1148 GMT 26 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 26 KYODO—Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu on Wednesday approved a proposal made by a mission from the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) to provide the Soviet Union with up to 5 billion yen in loans to help expand oil and natural gas production there, government officials said.

Kaifu gave his approval to the commitment when he met former Chief Cabinet Secretary Keizo Obuchi, who returned home earlier in the day from a weeklong visit to Moscow. Obuchi, who led the 51-member LDP delegation in place of former Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe, took part in a Japanese cultural festival in Moscow and met Soviet leaders, including President Mikhail Gorbachev. Abe stayed home because of ill health.

The LDP mission made the loan offer last week during an hour-long meeting with a Soviet Governmental panel headed by Aleksandr Yakovlev, a member of the Presidential Council. Yakovlev, one of the closest aides to Gorbachev, reportedly showed interest in the proposal and promised to study it.

In the meeting, Kaifu was quoted as saying that it is important to build confidence between Japan and the Soviet Union through various channels toward Gorbachev's visit to Japan, scheduled for next April. Obuchi said the offer was made as "intellectual support," not as "developmental investment," for the Soviet perestroyka (restructuring) effort, the officials said.

Japan has made the return of four Soviet-held islands off Hokkaido a precondition for extending full-fledged economic assistance to Moscow.

USSR To Release Three Detained Fishermen

OW2709080190 Tokyo KYODO in English 0702 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] Kushiro, Hokkaido, Sept. 27 KYODO—Three Japanese fishermen detained by Soviet authorities allegedly for illegal operations last May will be released in the Soviet far east city of Kholmsk on Friday and brought back to Japan, Japanese officials said Thursday.

The fishermen are Yasuki Kobayashi, 49, chief deckhand of the No. 67 Ryoto-maru, Tetsuzo Kotada, 58, a crew member of the No. 3 Kinsho-maru, both from Nemuro, and Yoshiaki Furukawa, 38, chief deckhand of the No. 53 Maruto-maru from Bekkai, Hokkaido, the Nemuro Maritime Safety Office said.

The three men were among a total 52 fishermen aboard six fishing boats caught by Soviet Coast Guards and were brought to Kholmsk for trial on May 13, the maritime safety officials said.

Forty-six of the 52 were previously released from detention and returned home.

USSR Pays $207 Million for Steel Imports

OW2709012890 Tokyo KYODO in English 2312 GMT 26 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 27 KYODO—The Soviet Union has paid 207 million dollars for its steel imports to Japanese trading houses, accounting for 40 percent of the nation's 518 million dollars in arrears after last October, major trading firms said Thursday.

The huge cash payments were made at a time when cash availability in the Soviet Union seems to have improved following income increases arising from the boost in crude oil prices and massive sales of gold, an official at a major trading firm said. The Soviet Union, which wants to raise its crude oil production to meet the supply shortage caused by the Persian Gulf crisis, plans to buy steel for use in the construction of oil pipelines, the official said.

Suspended payments for imports of chemicals and other goods from Japan are expected to resume in the near future, he added.

Proposal To Cut Agricultural Subsidies Planned

OW2709140290 Tokyo KYODO in English 0754 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 27 KYODO—Japan will make a new proposal of cutting 30 percent of all agricultural subsidies over 10 years retroactive from 1986 at the ongoing Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations, government sources said Thursday.

Prior to the scheduled negotiations from October 4 under the auspices of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu will explain the proposal to U.S. President George Bush during their meeting in Washington set for Saturday, the sources said.

The new proposal aims to reduce gradually the current Aggregate Measure on Support (AMS), which shows overall government subsidies on agriculture products as well as gaps between domestic and overseas prices in a nation as a whole. The sources said, however, the proposal conflicts with a U.S.- backed idea to eliminate import barriers by converting them into tariffs, and the government expects possible opposition from agricultural exporters.

Firms Urged To Buy U.S. Amorphous Metals

OW1309144990 Tokyo KYODO in English 1212 GMT 13 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 13 KYODO—International Trade and Industry Minister Kabun Muto said Thursday the government may ask Japanese electric utilities to buy more amorphous metal from Allied-Signal Inc. of the United States in a bid to reach a settlement in bilateral talks over the high-tech alloy.

Muto told a news conference on his return from a 10-day trip to Europe and Canada that, if the U.S. seeks to sell more of the metal to Japanese electric utilities for field tests of electric transfomers using the metal, the government could help persuade Japanese firms to buy more. But, he said, it would be very difficult for the U.S. to sell the metal for broad commercial use before the tests are completed. He said he may telephone U.S. Commerce Secretary Robert Mosbacher on Friday to ask him what Washington wants.

But Muto made it clear that Tokyo has no intention of accepting the U.S. request for the extension of two Japanese patents on the metal granted to Allied-Signal. The first expires in 1993. "Even if the rejection leads to the breakdown of the bilateral talks, that's that," he said. "We cannot ignore the Japanese law" prohibiting such an extension, he said.

Japanese and U.S. trade negotiators are making last-ditch efforts to settle the trade dispute, which started when the U.S.-engineered material maker complained in March to the U.S. trade representative that Japan has unfairly closed its market to Allied's products to nurture Japanese technology to produce the metal.

The current bilateral talks are approaching the deadline of September 15, after which the U.S. may start legal procedures to seek retaliation against Japan.

NEC Signs Agreement With U.S. Computer Firm

OW2609134390 Tokyo KYODO in English 1223 GMT 26 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 26 KYODO—NEC [Nippon Electric Company] Corp. said Wednesday it has signed an agreement with Stratus Computer Inc. to market nonstop, or fault-tolerant, computers made by the U.S. firm on an Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) basis.

Under the 10-year contract, NEC will sell Stratus's computers under the NEC brand name worldwide, with sales targeted at 400 units in Japan and 100 units abroad over a three-year period, NEC said in a release. Shipments are expected to begin in the fall of 1991, it said.

NEC said the business deal is designed to meet growing demand for trouble-tolerant computers like those produced by Stratus. NEC has been working on development of such computers, but it came up with the deal in light of the relatively small size of the domestic market for such systems, it said.

Stratus's computers are based on a hardware architecture which allows application software to run in case of system failures and facilitates software development, NEC said.

Stratus computer is based in Marlboro, Massachusetts, and reported sales of some 340 million dollars in 1989.

JAL Subsidiary Wins Approval for Linear Rail

OW2609143190 Tokyo KYODO in English 1330 GMT 26 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 26 KYODO—A subsidiary of Japan Airlines Co. [JAL] has won U.S. state approval to build a track for high-speed, magnetically levitated linear motorcars in Las Vegas, the company announced Wednesday.

HSST [expansion unknown] Corp. said it plans to start construction of the 7-kilometer track linking Riviera Boulevard and Tropicana Avenue next summer upon getting the green light from the State of Nevada, making it the world's first commercial railway for such motorcars. The project, subject to final approval from Clark County, Nevada, is expected to cost 14 to 15 billion yen, with the start of operations slated for 1993, HSST said.

The HSST-system linear motor train runs at a speed of up to 300 kilometers per hour, floating above the tracks guided by a magnetic field instead of by rigid rails. The HSST system is one of two linear motorcar systems developed in Japan and is the less expensive of the two, but it allows for transportation at a slower speed than the other one.

The Transport Ministry and the former state-run railway JR Group are involved in the other type of linear motorcars, which apply superconductive materials and enable such trains to run at a speed of up to 550 kilometers per hour.

Mandela Plans Tokyo, Osaka Rallies on Trip

OW2609140390 Tokyo KYODO in English 1220 GMT 26 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 26 KYODO—South African anti-apartheid leader Nelson Mandela will attend rallies in Tokyo and Osaka on October 28 to call for Japanese people to greater understand the movement against racial segregation in South Africa, a private committee said on Wednesday.

The 31-member Nelson Mandela Reception Committee of Japan will host the rallies to be attended by Mandela, who will visit Japan from October 27 to 30 at the invitation of the Japanese Government.

Mandela, vice chairman of the African National Congress (ANC) and a major political figure in South Africa, will take part in the rally in Osaka early afternoon on October 28, said a committee spokesman, adding about 10,000 people will mass at the rally.

He will also make a speech before about 1,500 people in a rally together with a rock concert in Tokyo in the evening on October 28.

The committee said it is campaigning for 10 million signatures and donations for a target of 502,550 dollars (about 70 million yen), adding the campaigns will help the anti-apartheid movement in South Africa.

Apart from private gatherings for Mandela, he is scheduled to meet Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu and other government leaders to call for the sustaining of financial aid to the ANC and the tightening of economic sanctions against South Africa.

Mandela's visit to Japan is part of his 16-day Asian tour of India, Indonesia, and Brunei beginning October 15, four months after he visited the United States in June to appeal for continued pressure on Pretoria to scrap white supremacy.

Mandela has been negotiating with the government led by F.W. de Klerk, to bring the idea of one man, one vote to black majority South Africa. He was freed from prison last February after 27-year imprisonment on a charge of anti-apartheid campaigning.

Nakayama Meets With Yugoslavian Counterpart

OW2709015690 Tokyo KYODO in English 2316 GMT 26 Sep 90

[Text] New York, Sept. 26 KYODO—Yugoslavian Foreign Secretary Budimir Loncar called Wednesday for Japan and the non-aligned countries to adopt a broader role in the establishment of a new international security framework, a Japanese official said. Loncar told Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama that Yugoslavia is rapidly implementing political and economic reforms, the official said.

Loncar said the number of political parties in Yugoslavia will drop from the current 125 as political reform progresses and noted that 40,000 private firms and 1,400 joint ventures have been established in the last eight months. "We have been successful in bringing inflation under control and inflation is now 10 percent a year," the Yugoslavian foreign minister was quoted as telling Nakayama.

Nakayama told Loncar that Japan will consult with its Western allies about economic assistance to East European countries affected by the Persian Gulf crisis, the Japanese official said.

CSFR Economic Minister Seeks Investment

OW1909110890 Tokyo KYODO in English 1020 GMT 19 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 19 KYODO—Czechoslovak Minister of Economic Affairs Vladimir Dlouhy said Wednesday his country sees foreign investment as vital to its economic restructuring.

"Foreign investment is a possible locomotive for future economic growth" in Czechoslovakia, Dlouhy told reporters. "We are ready to support in the coming months and coming years as much foreign investment as possible," he said.

Dlouhy, now on a seven-day visit to Japan to promote bilateral economic relations, said he has received a positive reaction from political and business officials here to his call for greater investment. He boasted that, despite recent sweeping political and economic changes, his country remains stable and is suitable for investment because of its relatively good technology, high productivity, and cheap labor.

To further improve the conditions for foreign investment, the Czechoslovak Government will promote legal and financial deregulation, he said. Dlouhy also said the government will carry out three basic economic reforms—privatization, price liberalization, and making the country's currency convertible. "These are three of the basic steps on which we cannot hesitate, which we must do immediately, in spite of all the problems," he said.

Dlouhy, who has met top government and business officials, including Minister of International Trade and Industry Kabun Muto, is scheduled to hold talks with Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama and other officials before he leaves Japan on Saturday.

Greek Leader Meets Kaifu, Urges Investment

OW1709101890 Tokyo KYODO in English 0523 GMT 17 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 17 KYODO—Greek Prime Minister Constantine Mitsotakis urged Japan on Monday to exand its investment in his country, a Foregn Ministry official said.

Mitsotakis met Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu, inviting the Japanese premier to visit Greece, the official said.

Kaifu said he will consider making the trip next year, the official said.

The two leaders sought support for national bids to host Olympic games in the 1990s.

Mitsotakis asked Japan to pick Athens to host the 1996 games which falls on the centennial of the modern Olympics. Kaifu sought Mitsotakis' backing for hosting the 1998 winter Olympics in Nagano. The International Olympic Committee (IOC) is set Tuesday to choose the Olympic site for the 1996 games from six cities. Other cities vying for the games are Atlanta (U.S.), Belgrade (Yugoslavia), Manchester (Britain), Melbourne (Australia), and Toronto (Canada).

New Romanian Ambassador Interviewed on Ties

OW2609132690 Tokyo KYODO in English 1225 GMT 26 Sep 90

[By Tim Johnson]

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 26 KYODO—Romania wants Japanese help in revitalizing its economy and offsetting its Persian Gulf losses, but is prepared to reciprocate by helping Japan achieve international recognition befitting a major economic power, according to Romania's new ambassador here, Mircea Mitran.

"Japan's entitled to it," said Mitran, who had been Romania's deputy foreign minister since the bloody December 1989 revolution which overthrew the dictatorship of communist leader Nicolae Ceausescu. Mitran, speaking in an interview shortly after his posting to Tokyo, said one way Romania could reciprocate for Japanese assistance would be to serve as a window for Japan on the proceedings of the United Nations Security Council.

Romania, which chaired the council in August amid the Persian Gulf crisis, will continue to hold one of the 10 nonpermanent seats in the 15-seat UN body for the next two years, he noted. "We think that as Japan has global interests, consultations with Romania as one of the members of the Security Council are important," said Mitran, who formerly served in the UN Secretariat.

Mitran said Romania would also support a Japanese drive in the current General Assembly for removal of the two offending clauses in the UN Charter that define Japan as a former "enemy state." "I think its high time to do that," he said.

Meanwhile, amid the evolving of a pan-European structure, Japan should act to ensure its interests in Europe by staking out a "dynamic" economic presence in post-revolutionary Romania, Mitran said. In turn, the envoy said, Romania would be prepared to support Japan in its quest for observer status in the 35-nation Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE), which is to hold an historic summit-level meeting in Paris in November.

Mitran said Japan has a "legitimate interest" in the new post-Cold War structures to be built by the CSCE process. "It is already contributing quite substantially to European expenses...without having a say in what's happening there," he said. Mitran said Romania would also be willing to hold periodic or regular consultations with Japan on the evolution of the CSCE and on other European developments.

Romanian President Ion Iliescu's visit to Japan in November will mark the first high-level contact between the two countries since the December revolution.

On Romania's expectations for Japanese cooperation as it moves toward a market economy, Mitran said, "What we need, more than money itself, is expertise in management and marketing and in modernization of industry." He said he intends to draw Japanese investors' attention to Romania's strategic location astride the River Danube, which he said will become the "economic artery" of the future pan-European market. Romania especially hopes to attract Japanese investors in the automotive, telecommunications, metallurgical, chemical, and tourist sectors, he said.

Mitran acknowledged that Romania has approached the United Nations Security Council for compensation for its losses from the international sanctions against Iraq. He said the lowest estimate of Romania's evident losses from the Persian Gulf crisis was around 4 billion dollars, of which Japan is generally expected to pick up around 15 percent. "I think they will come forward," he added.

The ambassador expressed dismay that Japanese and Western aid to Romania was suspended last June following the violent crackdown on student protests in Bucharest, though the restrictions are expected to be lifted shortly.

Mitran called it "curious" that Western countries would judge that democratization in Romania could better be furthered by isolating it than by "injecting a Western presence into a country where you think the democratic process is wavering." "It's like asking Romania to present a PhD in democracy before being admitted to the democratic school," he said.

Mitran, who joined the Foreign Ministry in 1963, said that in 1985 he became one of the 1,400 career diplomats "chased out" by Ceausescu for not towing the official line and because he made proposals that were "an affront to 'the great leader.'" He said he was transferred to the Ministry of Metallurgical Industry, where he was made a school inspector on half his former salary.

Mitran said that in the months preceding the December revolution, he and other members of small and loosely-organized resistance circles had planned to organize activities to disrupt communist elections Ceausescu had planned for March "in order to enthrone his son Nicu as chief of state." But he gave much of the credit for pulling off the December revolution to Romania's youth. Mitran said that on December 21 his own son convinced him to join the crowds thronging the streets of Bucharest in protest, telling him, "Now is the time—if you don't come with me now you lose all moral authority to tell me anything from now on."

Mitran said Romania's foreign policy has now been purged of its former ideological element in favor of a "solid, scientifically- designed concept of national interest." "(Ceausescu) was pursuing foreign policy rather whimsically, according to the needs of his grandeur rather than the interests of the country," he said.

Auto Industry To Seek Easing of PRC Controls

OW1409191890 Tokyo KYODO in English 1353 GMT 14 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 14 KYODO—The Japanese auto industry intends to ask China to relax regulations on auto and motorcycle imports imposed this past May, sources at the Japan Automobile Manufacturers Association said Friday.

The request will be conveyed by a powerful business mission organized by the Japan-China Association of Economy and Trade, which will leave for Beijing Sunday in a bid to break an impasse in economic ties between the two countries which has existed since the Tiananmen Square incident in June last year, the sources said.

In May, China slapped tighter quality inspections on imports of nine products, including autos and motorcycles, which would effectively shut Japanese autos out of the Chinese market.

The sources said Japanese automakers want Beijing to implement such inspections "flexibly," to allow imports of Japanese autos. "It's difficult to make cars meeting all the Chinese standards. It's not a realistic system," one source said.

The 60-member business mission, which will include Eishiro Saito, chairman of the Federation of Economic Organizations (Keidanren), will meet Communist Party Secretary General Jiang Zemin, Premier Li Peng and other Chinese leaders.

Trade between Japan and China has been on the wane in the wake of economic sanctions imposed against Beijing for its military crackdown on pro-democracy movements in June last year. Two-way trade between the two countries in the first half of this year was down 21 percent from a year earlier to some 7.8 billion dollars, according to trade statistics complied by the Finance Ministry. In particular, exports to China dwindled 41 percent to about 2.7 billion dollars in the six-month period, the statistics show.

Pulp-Making Study Team Plans Oct PRC Visit

OW2109131190 Tokyo KYODO in English 1156 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 21 KYODO—The Environment Agency has decided to send a study team to China in late October to assist a Chinese project for manufacturing paper from the tropical plant "kenaf," which is seen as a likely major substitute for pulpwood in the future, government officials said Friday.

An industry source said if the technology for making kenaf into a pulp material is established in China, as well as in Thailand and the Philippines, total output in these countries could replace some 40 percent of the 13 million-ton annual wood pulp consumption in Japan.

The move also will help the industrialization of developing countries and protect tropical rain forests in the region.

Kenaf, a fast growing tropical plant belonging to the Hibiscus group, is seen as a good candidate for pulp because of its abundant cellulose content, the source said.

In the United States, where feasibility studies on the industrial use of the plant have been conducted for some time, a paper mill capable of producing the equivalent of 10 percent of the U.S. annual consumption of newsprint will start operation late next year.

Honda Approved for Manufacturing in Philippines

OW2609143390 Tokyo KYODO in English 1306 GMT 26 Sep 90

[Text] Manila, Sept. 26 KYODO—The Management Committee of the Board of Investment of the Philippines approved on Wednesday the application of Honda Engine Mfg. Phils., a wholly owned subsidiary of Honda Motor Co. of Japan, to produce 18,200 units annually of automotive gasoline engines with transmissions and other parts, officials said.

The management committee will endorse to the board of directors of the investment board for final approval of the Honda application during its regular meeting on Thursday, the officials said.

They said the board is expected to decide favorably on the Honda application. Honda has applied with the board for incentives and for the registration of the project as a pioneering enterprise.

The Honda subsidiary will construct its plant and building next year in Laguna, a suburb south of the capital, next year if the project is approved. From August 1991 to January 1992, equipment and machinery will be installed in the plant when the commercial operations start, the officials said.

Of the project's 240 million pesos capital (9.23 million dollars), about 155 million pesos will be raised through equity contribution from the Japanese principal while 60 million pesos will be financed by loans. The balance of 25.6 million pesos will be funded by internally generated money.

About 33 percent of the 18,200 units to be made annually will be exported while the rest will be sold to Honda Cars Phils. Inc., another Honda subsidiary which is a proposed participant under the people's car category of the Philippine Government's car development program.

The project will initially produce 4,400 units of engines on the first year of operations and all units will be sold to the Honda Cars Phils. Inc. About 4,000 units of the total units to be manufactured on the second year of operation will be exported. Full production capacity is expected on the third year of operations.

The project is expected to earn 89.9 million dollars in the first 10 years of operations, while local sales are projected at between 467.4 million pesos to 582.9 million pesos annually.

Indonesia To Raise Price of Exported Oil

OW1409135590 Tokyo KYODO in English 1119 GMT 14 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 14 KYODO—Indonesia will raise oil prices by an average 8.84 dollars per barrel over August prices for September shipments to Japan, oil industry sources said Friday. As a result, the price of Minas, a benchmark Indonesian crude, will be 28.03 dollars per barrel, up from 19.19 dollars, the sources said.

The price is 13.22 dollars higher than that for July shipments, before the August 2 Iraqi invasion of Kuwait.

Crude oil imports from Indonesia account for 12.3 percent of Japan's overall imports, making Indonesia the third largest oil supplier after the United Arab Emirates and Saudi Arabia.

Paper Manufacturer, FRG Firm Form Venture

OW2709144090 Tokyo KYODO in English 1319 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 27 KYODO—Kanzaki Paper Mfg. Co. said Thursday it has formed a joint venture with Zanders Feinpapiere AG, a leading German paper manufacturer, to produce thermal paper used for facsimilie machines. The venture, Kanzan Spezialpapiere GMBH, capitalized at 148 million marks, is based in Duren, West Germany. Kanzaki and Zanders put up equal amounts in capital, company officials said. Production is expected to begin in November of next year, with annual output projected to reach 25,000 tons.

The venture will help Kanzaki meet its goal of establishing production facilities in the three major markets of Japan, Europe, and the U.S. Kanzaki earlier acquired a plant in the U.S., which has already begun production. The firm projects production in all three regions to reach 80,000 tons by 1992, giving it a 20 percent share of the world market. Kanzaki is targeting sales for the West European market, but hopes to eventually expand to the Soviet Union and countries in Eastern Europe.

Two Ministers Resign Because of Illness

OW1209110390 Tokyo KYODO in English 0744 GMT 12 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 12 KYODO—Two members of the 21-member cabinet of Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu have resigned because of illness, government spokesman

Misoji Sakamoto said Wednesday. Justice Minister Shin Hasegawa and Shigetami Sunada, state minister for Hokkaido and Okinawa development, both tendered their resignations to Kaifu on Wednesday, the chief cabinet secretary said.

Hasegawa collapsed and was hospitalized on Monday. Sunada has been absent from regular cabinet sessions, held three times this month, because of poor health.

Kaifu has entered into talks with faction leaders of his ruling Liberal Democratic Party [LDP] to pick replacements for Hasegawa and Sunada, LDP sources said.

Finance Ministry Eases Corporate Bond Curbs

OW2609083690 Tokyo KYODO in English 0750 GMT 26 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 26 KYODO—The Finance Ministry will substantially ease its control on bond issuance by Japanese companies in November, as the first step under Japan's corporate bond market deregulation program, ministry sources said Wednesday.

The planned deregulation, which follows a recommendation by a committee of the Securities and Exchange Council, an advisory panel to the finance minister, is designed to revitalize the Japanese corporate bond market, which has been hurt by the continued turbulence in financial markets.

The new rules, expected to be put into effect on November 1, will call for abolition of so-called "number" standards, such as net-asset requirements, and put more emphasis on the credit ratings of would-be issuers, the sources said.

After the new requirements are implemented, companies may issue unsecured straight bonds and bonds with equity-purchase warrants only if they are rated Single A or higher, regardless of the scale of their net assets. Under the current regulations, ratings of Double A, or Single A Plus net assets of more than 33 billion yen, are the requirements for such issuers. Companies wanting to issue unsecured convertible bonds currently must have net assets of more than 33 billion yen and ratings of more than Triple B or Single A. But the ministry will lower the value of the required assets to 20 billion yen and allow companies with no higher than Triple B to issue these types of bonds.

The sources said the deregulation is expected to invigorate the flagging corporate bond market, opening the way for bond issues by small- to medium-size firms which can rarely issue bonds because of their limited assets.

The rating system, introduced in April 1985, classifies corporate bonds into nine categories from Triple A to Single C in order to inform investors of the level of risk involved in their investment in corporate bond markets.

Leading Index Shows Economy To Keep Growing

OW2509100890 Tokyo KYODO in English 0802 GMT 25 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 25 KYODO—The leading index, the main barometer of future economic trends, surged in July, pointing to continued expansion of the economy, a government agency said Tuesday. The index, which shows how the economy will perform in the coming months, rose to 80.0 percent in July, up from 61.5 percent the previous month. It stayed well above the "boom or bust" line of 50 percent for the fifth consecutive month.

An official at the Economic Planning Agency (EPA) said eight of the index's 13 components marked growth. Among those with minus growth was money supply, he said, reflecting a series of rises in the official discount rate.

The coincident index, which shows the present state of the economy, also stood at a strong 90.0 percent, unchanged from June, marking the sixth consecutive month it has exceeded the 50 percent line. The lagging index, which indicates the economy's recent performance, slipped to 28.6 percent from 62.5 percent in the previous month. It was the first decline below 50 percent for the lagging index, after 35 straight months of positive growth, the official said. Lagging index declines were seen in consumption-related items, still showing the effects of last year's introduction of the consumption tax, the official said.

Manufactured Goods Imports Increase 8.1 Percent

OW1209140590 Tokyo KYODO in English 1124 GMT 12 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 12 KYODO—Japan's imports of manufactured goods jumped 8.1 percent in the first half of this year over a year ago to 55.18 billion dollars due mainly to brisk shipments from the United States and Europe, the Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO) said Wednesday. The total for the January-June period pushed up the nation's ratio of manufactured goods to all imports to an all-time high 51.0 percent, JETRO said.

Imports of manufactured goods such as aircraft and computers from the U.S. posted a 15.7 percent expansion to 15.61 billion dollars, and those of brand name clothes and automobiles from the 12-nation European Community climbed 26.1 percent to 14.57 billion dollars.

In contrast, imports from Asian countries, excluding China, declined 3.4 percent to 12.47 billion dollars because of sluggish shipments from newly industrializing economies (NIES), JETRO said. "NIES like South Korea and Taiwan are losing their international competitiveness due to their currencies' advances against the U.S. dollar and the yen and rising labor costs," a JETRO analyst said.

Asahi Mutual Life Aims at Wider Market

OW1709102590 Tokyo KYODO in English 0621 GMT 17 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 17 KYODO—Asahi Mutual Life Insurance Co. said Monday it will become a manager of Insurope, an international organization of insurance companies, in May next year, the first such move by a Japanese insurer. It plans at the same time to form a tie-up with a West German reinsurance company, Munich Reinsurance, in stock investment management and will set up a representative office in Frankfurt. The moves are intended to strengthen its operations in Europe where Japanese companies are seeking to establish themselves ahead of the planned market integration of the European Community in 1992.

The Brussels-based Insurope is a 48-member group in which each company undertakes insurance involving foreign companies operating in its country.

In the partnership with Munich Reinsurance, Asahi will also send trainees to the West German firm as well as jointly consigning mark-denominated stock investment to the Frankfurt-based Dresdner Bank.

Long-Term Energy Saving Program Formulated

OW1809121790 Tokyo KYODO in English 1110 GMT 18 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 18 KYODO—The government Tuesday revealed a wide-ranging action program aimed at promoting energy conservation over the long term. The program, compiled by the Agency of Resources and Energy, affiliated with the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI), set four concrete goals—enhanced energy saving efforts, diversification of energy sources, international cooperation on energy preservation, and publicity on efficient energy use.

Four teams will be set up to implement the goals, according to a report on the program which is based on a recommendation submitted in June by the advisory committee for energy which counsels Minister of International Trade and Industry Kabun Muto.

With regard to the first goal, the program stresses the need for improved energy consumption patterns, especially by the household and transportation sectors, where energy demand is expected to grow faster than in industry in the future, officials said. Specifically, it calls for the reduction of fuel consumption by automobiles and revision of the regulations for housing insulation, amid the rapid spread of energy-intensive air conditioners. The agency will establish a committee to further detail such measures within this month.

To reduce the dependence on crude oil, it is necessary to put more emphasis on nonfossil energies such as nuclear and hydroelectric power as well as to tap new energy sources like solar energy, it said.

NTT Announces Experimental Broadband System

OW1109113690 Tokyo KYODO in English 0945 GMT 11 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 11 KYODO—Nippon Telegraph and Telephone [NTT] Corp. unveiled Tuesday an experimental broadband integrated services digital network (B-ISDN) that will become the telecommunications giant's infrastructure of the future.

The B-ISDN system, developed at NTT's Musashino research center, is a high-speed network offering a user/network interface speed of either 156 or 620 megabits per second, allowing transmission of image signals in addition to voice and data, NTT officials said. The experimental system consists of an asynchronous transfer mode (ATM) switching system that accommodates 256 lines, each operating at 156 megabits per second. The ATM ring is also a high-speed local area network (LAN). Existing LANs transmit data only, while the multimedia ATM ring can also transmit voice and video.

NTT's ATM overcomes the technical limitations of existing circuit switched and packet switched systems, dividing information into fixed-length packets known as "cells" and transferring them into the network. The system will make multimedia communications such as voice, image, personal computer, or mainframe communications a reality in the near future, officials said. High definition television signals can also be transmitted at high speed using this network communications systems, they added.

The telecommuncations giant will select a manufacturer to jointly develop a commercially viable system, in late November and plans to start part of the B-ISDN system in fiscal 1995, officials said.

NTT's recently developed B-ISDN system comes at a time when Europe and the United States are racing to construct their own integrated experimental networks. Europe is developing its own system under the race cooperative project. The U.S. is headed by Bellcore, a cooperative organization within the telecommunications industry, which is working on a system called "Sunshine."

Matsushita To Ship Rechargeable Batteries

OW2609091190 Tokyo KYODO in English 0808 GMT 26 Sep 90

[Text] Osaka, Sept. 26 KYODO—Matsushita Battery Industrial Co. said Wednesday it will begin shipments early next month of a rechargeable nickel-hydrogen battery that has twice the lifespan of nickel-cadmium batteries.

Officials of the company, an affiliate of the Matsushita Electric Industrial Group, said it expects strong demand for the battery from users of portable telephones and video camcorders, which require battery packs comprising five or 10 cells.

The 16.5 millimeter diameter and 42.5 millimeter high battery differs from conventional nickel-cadmium batteries in which the positive electrode is made of nickel and the negative electrode is formed from cadmium. The new battery consists of a nickel-based positive electrode and a hydrogen negative electrode. Hydrogen is absorbed and stored in a compound metal, which acts as an electrolyte, giving the battery its special characteristics, the officials said. The battery can be recharged within one hour and will initially cost about twice the price of nickel-cadmium batteries, they said.

The company plans to begin manufacturing 40,000 of the batteries per month, they said.

NEC Begins New Fabrication Process for LSI's

OW2509113890 Tokyo KYODO in English 0955 GMT 25 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 25 KYODO—NEC Corp. said Tuesday it has developed a new fabrication process for building large-scale integrated (LSI) circuits for use in supercomputers.

The company said the new technique enables researchers to mass-produce a 0.3-5 micron wafer, much thinner than the one micron thick wafers currently being produced by typical chemical vapor deposition (cvd) processes.

A micron is equal to one-thousandth of a millimeter.

Chemical vapor deposition is a process used by scientists to spray silicon and germanium gas elements into a container where gases are deposited onto a wafer. The technique is used for building transistors, electrodes, and other devices on silicon wafers.

Mongolia

Small Hural Passes Law on Government Structure

OW2709084290 Ulaanbaatar International Service in English 0810 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] The first law to be passed by the State Small Hural of Mongolia, the parliament, has become the Law on Government Structure. Now the government consists of 11 ministries of Defense, Public Education, Foreign Relations, Finance, National Development, Trade and Industry, Labor, Justice, Agriculture, Health, and Policy Plans, and the State Control Committee for Nature and the Environment. The newly formed cabinet consists of 16 members—prime minister, vice prime minister, two deputy prime ministers, 11 ministers, and one chairman of the state committee.

Byambasuren Grants Interview on New Government

OW2409130890 Ulaanbaatar International Service in English 0910 GMT 24 Sep 90

[From the "Society Magazine" segment—Byambasuren's remarks in Mongolian, fading into English translation]

[Text] The highest legislative organ of Mongolia, the State Small Hural, has ended its discussion in Ulaanbaatar on Monday. Just before it our correspondent interviewed Prime Minister Byambasuren concerning a future government to be proposed at the resumed session of the State Small Hural.

[Unidentified female correspondent] On what principles will be set up the new Government?

[Byambasuren] First of all, this government will work in totally new conditions. This is closely connected with the new social, political realities. The future prospect of the country is bright. Therefore, the government-to-be must be appropriately shifted to the new realities of the country. First of all, we shall follow certain principles. The government will be composed on a coalition basis and will truly represent vital interests of the social strata. All the political forces are truly striving to promote the country's prosperity and improve the living standards of the people.

Besides, the government must be set up on a cabinet basis. In other words, the government officials, as well as the entire people, must have firm duties and responsibilities in the country's administration as a whole. In case of failure, all must take the responsibility. This involves each branch taking all the duties and responsibilities as part of society. The main topical questions of the country must be discussed by the government and cabinet. Besides, the relationship between prime minister and government officials must be newly reconsidered. The prime minister must pay attention to international questions and play an important role in their tackling; the ministers must be (?new), rational-minded persons [words indistinct].

Thirdly, the members of the governmental staff must be highly specialized and qualified personnel. Although they will represent different political parties, all of them ought to know perfectly their jobs. Besides, the Government must work in a very flexible and quick-reaction manner, that is improvement of communication (?in state relations). Besides, the government's task must be to avoid any kind of party discrimination, and the views of every party must be exchanged regarding activities within the government body.

[Correspondent] The government in being will be a coalition government, so, do you think that the government will succeed in forming a common activity, based on free relations of views?

[Byambasuren] All the political parties have sent us a list of candidates for the new government cabinet. Besides, my talks with them on the matter [words indistinct] and after reaching a common understanding on suitable candidates, we will decide who will form the government cabinet. The pluralism (?exchange) of views will be a common practice in government activities, and shouldn't be considered as something apart from it. And, we expect to be made effective and [words indistinct] unanimity.

[Correspondent] How many alternative jobs will be considered a new government's tasks?

[Byambasuren] Actually, there were quite many alternative attitudes, we suspect. Besides, we had previous consultations with members of parliament on the matter. In fact, the goverment composition must be drastically changed and (?revived), for the country is also switching over from planned to market economy. One needs to [words indistinct] propose to set up a property commission, which will deal with the property questions. Besides, we have a very big diplomatic institution, which is called the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, which should increase and enlarge its activities. We propose to turn (?it) into a foreign rleations ministry.

[Correspondent] You have heard an exclusive interview with the Mongolian Prime Minister Byambasuren.

North Korea

Further Coverage of Japanese Official Visit

KYODO Reviews Activities

OW2709045190 Tokyo KYODO in English 0358 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] Pyongyang, Sept. 27 KYODO—Japanese and North Korean Government officials began the first-ever government-level talks in Pyongyang on Thursday. The session was the first of a series of meetings aimed at improving strained bilateral ties between the two countries, which do not have diplomatic relations.

Japanese officials from the Foreign, International Trade and Industry, Transport, and Posts and Telecommunications Ministries met their North Korean counterparts to discuss details of various agreements reached by a Japanese mission and North Korean President Kim Il-song in a meeting Wednesday.

The officials were accompanying the parliamentarians' mission, which is headed by former Deputy Prime Minister Shin Kanemaru and Makoto Tanabe, vice chairman of the opposition Japan Socialist Party, the mission arrived for a five-day visit to North Korea on Monday. Kanemaru, regarded by analysts as one of the most influential politicians within Japan's ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), met Kim at the mountain resort of Myohyangsan on Thursday morning, Japanese sources said.

It was their third round of talks since Wednesday morning, when the two sides reached a broad range of agreements to improve bilateral ties, including the release of two Japanese seamen detained for alleged espionage since 1983. Kanemaru said he and Kim "discussed the world situation" in their hourlong session Wednesday evening. No other details of the two unscheduled one-on-one meetings between Kanemaru and Kim were immediately known.

Japanese sources said Kanemaru wanted to use the meetings to nail down Kim's commitment to release the two Japanese seamen—Isamu Beniko and Yoshio Kuriura—and discuss Japan's compensation for its 1910-1945 colonial rule of the Korean peninsula. Kanemaru will likely press Kim to allow Beniko and Kuriura, skipper and first mate of the Japanese freighter No. 18 Fujisan Maru, to return home on the same chartered plane which will carry the Japanese mission back to Tokyo on Friday, Japanese sources said. The two seamen were detained in North Korea in November 1983 after a North Korean soldier got to Japan by stowing away on their vessel during a previous call at a North Korean port.

Separate from the government-to-government contacts, members of the 13-member LDP delegation sat down for a series of talks with officials of the Korean Workers' Party (KWP) to work out a joint statement to be issued Friday. KWP officials were also to meet the nine-member Japan Socialist Party group Thursday afternoon.

The session between the LDP and the KWP opened in a jovial atmosphere, with Kim Yong-sun, KWP secretary in charge of international affairs and leader of the KWP group, proposing a student exchange with Japan to improve bilateral understanding.

The government-to-government talks are expected to center on the opening of a direct Tokyo-Pyongyang air link, an idea raised personally by Kim Il-song on Wednesday, as well as satellite communications links, the lifting of a ban on Japanese traveling to North Korea, and settlement of North Korea's 70 billion yen debt to Japan.

North Korea is the only country for which Japanese passports are not valid, and Pyongyang wants the provision deleted, Japanese sources said.

Both sides will also seek the establishment by the end of this year of mutual liaison offices to serve as a forum to discuss the compensation issue, LDP delegation sources said.

The offices will function initially on a nongovernmental basis as "trade and economic offices" to be staffed by two people on each side, but in the future they may handle consular functions such as the issuance of visas and protection of nationals of each other's country in the absence of diplomatic relations, they added.

Japan normalized ties with South Korea in 1965. Diplomatic analysts believe North Korea is reluctant to normalize relations with Japan for fear it might stabilize the current state of division on the Korean peninsula and prevent Korean unification.

Reflecting the warming bilateral ties, NODONG SINMUN, the official North Korean party paper, frontpaged the meeting Wednesday between Kanemaru, Tanabe, and Kim. The paper said the three-way meeting was conducted in an amicable atmosphere and Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu apologized for Japan's colonial rule of the Korean peninsula in a personal message to Kim.

Kim Wants Normalization Talks

OW2709102290 Tokyo KYODO in English 1004 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] Pyongyang, Sept. 27 KYODO—North Korean President Kim Il-song Thursday proposed to begin talks this fall on normalization of diplomatic ties with Japan, Japanese sources said.

Kim made the proposal in a meeting with Japan's former Deputy Prime Minister Shin Kanemaru at the mountain resort of Myohyangsan Thursday morning, the sources said.

More on Kim's Proposal

OW2609122790 Tokyo KYODO in English 1121 GMT 26 Sep 90

[Text] Myohyangsan, North Korea, Sept. 26 KYODO—North Korean President Kim Il-song said Wednesday that Pyongyang is willing to enter into government-level talks with Japan to improve bilateral ties.

Kim, meeting with former Japanese Deputy Prime Minister Shin Kanemaru and a Japanese opposition leader, also denied that North Korea is developing its own nuclear capacity, as suspected by Western intelligence agencies, Japanese sources said. The North Korean leader insisted that Pyongyang has neither the will nor the economic capacity to engage in such a plan, the sources said.

Kim met Kanemaru, one of the most influential politicians in the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), and Makoto Tanabe, vice chairman of the opposition Japan Socialist Party (JSP), for 90 minutes in a private session at the mountain resort of Myohyangsan in central North Korea.

It was the first contact between Kim and a top Japanese political leader. The two countries have no diplomatic ties. Kim proposed opening bilateral air links as a step toward better ties between the two countries and told the Japanese visitors that North Korea is prepared to release two Japanese seamen detained in North Korea on espionage charges since 1983.

Japan and North Korea should no longer be two "nearby but far-away" nations; instead they should become two nearby countries with close ties, Kim was quoted as telling an expanded session with all 22 members of the two Japanese party delegations. Kim noted that Japan has become a major political and economic power as well as a creditor nation, in contrast to the United States, which has fallen to debtor nation status because of its military spending. Japan has achieved its present status by not becoming a military power, as stipulated by its Constitution, Kim reportedly said.

As a symbol of the fledgling ties between North Korea and the LDP, Kim invited Kanemaru to stay behind in the mountain resort for another round of talks on Thursday morning. All other members of the two groups returned to Pyongyang following the morning session. Kanemaru expressed satisfaction at the outcome of the meeting, telling his colleagues that "I feel almost as if I want to cry."

Japanese sources said Kim expressed understanding of Japan's concern over the detention of the two seamen and said North Korea would make a "lenient decision" on the matter. The two seamen—Isamu Beniko and Yoshio Kuriura—were detained in North Korea in November 1983 on espionage charges after a North Korean stowed away on board their Japan-bound cargo ship during an earlier trip to North Korea. Japan regards the release of the two seamen as critical for improving bilateral ties.

Kim proposed to inaugurate the air links with Japan as the first step toward better ties, noting that the LDP and JSP delegations had flown nonstop from Tokyo to Pyongyang in the first direct flight between the two countries. "Improvement in Kor[illegible] Japanese ties begins with the inauguration of an ai[illegible]e," Kim reportedly told the expanded session with all the members of the two delegations.

Kanemaru handed him a le[illegible]om Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu apologizing f[illegible]an's 1910-1945 colonial rule of Korea, a gestu[illegible] which Pyongyang had insisted was a precondition for improved ties. Japanese sources said Kim "highly evaluated" Kaifu's gesture.

Kim extended an invitation to the LDP to attend the 45th anniversary of the founding of the Korean Workers' Party on October 10 as part of expanded contacts between the two parties, Japanese sources said. The warming ties between the two ruling parties came after Kanemaru pledged to compensate North Korea for Japan's colonial rule of the Korean peninsula.

Japan is responsible for solving the compensation issue whether the two countries have diplomatic relations or not, Kanemaru told senior Korean party officials Tuesday. Kanemaru also proposed to set up liaison offices in each other's country to facilitate government-to-government contacts on the compensation issue and other bilateral ties. Japanese sources said Kim agreed in principle over the compensation issue but made no mention of how much compensation North Korea has in mind. Japan extended 500 million dollars in economic cooperation to South Korea by way of compensation when the two countries normalized diplomatic ties in 1965.

The Japanese mission, in Pyongyang since Monday on a five-day visit, plans to have a series of meetings with senior Korean party officials Thursday and Friday to work out details of the liaison offices and the release of the two seamen. The two sides will issue a joint statement Friday, Japanese sources said.

Kim Denies Nuclear Capability

OW2609130990 Tokyo KYODO in English 1204 GMT 26 Sep 90

[Text] Myohyangsan, North Korea, Sept. 26 KYODO—North Korean leader Kim Il-song said Wednesday that Pyongyang has no intention of manufacturing nuclear weapons.

"We neither have the economic capability nor the will and ability to produce nuclear weapons," Japanese sources quoted Kim as saying in a meeting with former Japanese Deputy Prime Minister Shin Kanemaru and Makoto Tanabe, vice chairman of the Japan Socialist Party at this mountain resort area 150 kilometers northeast of Pyongyang.

Kim told the Japanese that the only nuclear facility in North Korea is an atomic power research center built by the Soviet Union in the past.

Kim gave no direct response when asked by the Japanese side why North Korea, a signatory to the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty, has yet to open its facilities to inspection by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) as required of all treaty signatories.

"If we are subject to inspection then the same should apply to (South Korea) where it is said there are 1,000 nuclear bombs," Kim was quoted as saying.

Despite North Korea's consistent denials that it is developing nuclear arms, Western intelligence and photographs from Western spy satellites have shown that research on nuclear weapons is expanding rapidly, Western analysts said.

Since 1989, the South Korean press and U.S. publications on military affairs have quoted U.S. intelligence reports as saying that a nuclear processing facility is under construction in the Yeongbyeon Region in North Korea. They also noted that a 300,000-kilowatt plutonium producing plant is in full operation, with the capacity to produce materials needed to make a 1-kiloton-class atomic bomb.

Some reports have said a nuclear test site is adjacent to the nuclear plant.

Growing concern over North Korea's nuclear capability has resulted in calls by the United States and the Soviet Union urging North Korea to accept IAEA inspections. North Korea has repeatedly criticized the U.S. nuclear threat and called for the establishment of a nuclear-free zone in the Korean peninsula.

Visitors Present Gift

SK2609105890 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1051 GMT 26 Sep 90

[Text] Pyongyang September 26 (KCNA)—The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il received a gift from the delegation of the Liberal Democratic Party and the delegation of the Japan Socialist Party, on a visit to Korea.

The gift was handed over to Kim Yong-sun, secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea.

Functionaries Begin Talks

SK2709092590 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 0648 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] Contacts between the DPRK and Japanese governmental working functionaries were held in Pyongyang today.

Working functionaries from the two sides in the fields of foreign affairs, trade, air transportation, and communications participated in the contacts. During the contacts, opinions were exchanged on pending issues in improving relations between the DPRK and Japan.

WPK-LDP Talks Reported

SK2709103890 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0958 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] Pyongyang September 27 (KCNA)—Talks between delegations of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] and the Liberal Democratic Party [LDP] of Japan were held here today.

Present at the talks on the Korean side were Kim Yong-sun, secretary of the C.C., WPK, vice-chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly (SPA) and deputy to the SPA, and deputies to the SPA Choe Su-kil, director of a department of the C.C., WPK, Chong Chun-ki, chairman of the Korean Society for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries and vice-chairman of the SPA Foreign Affairs Committee, Choe Mun-son, chief secretary of the Pyongyang Municipal Committee of the WPK, Yi Mong-ho, director of the Secretariat of the SPA Standing Committee, Kim Yo-ung, director of the Korean Civil Aviation Company, and Nam Sun-hui, rector of Pyongyang College of Teachers.

Present on the opposite side were deputy heads of the delegation Shinjiro Yamamura, former minister of transport and member of the House of Representatives, and Hikosaburo Okonoki, former minister of construction and member of the House of Representatives; secretary of the delegation Hajime Ishii, acting president of the Foreign Affairs Research Council of the LDP and member of the House of Representatives; and members of the delegation Yoichi Tani, vice-chairman of the Dietmen's League for the Promotion of Japan-Korea Friendship and member of the House of Representatives; Yukihiko Ikeda, deputy secretary general of the LDP and member of the House of Representatives, Michihiko Kano, deputy secretary general of the LDP and member of the House of Representatives, Satatoshi Ozato, director of the General Affairs Department of the LDP and member of the House of Representatives, Hiromu Nonaka, chairman of the Communications Department of the LDP and member of the House of Representatives, Masayoshi Takemura, general secretary of the society for the study of Korean affairs of the Institute of Asian-African Affairs of the LDP and member of the House of Representatives, Toshitsuku Saito, vice director of the International Department of the LDP and member of the House of Representatives, Tomoo Ie, member of the House of Councillors, and Mayumi Moriyama, former chief cabinet secretary and member of the House of Councillors.

The foreign policy of the WPK and its proposals for national reunification and sincere efforts to carry them into effect were briefed first at the talks.

A series of matters in improving the DPRK-Japan relations such as trade, civilian fishing, tourism, cultural interchange and guarantee of rights of Koreans in Japan and the international situation were also discussed.

The talks proceeded in a good atmosphere.

Party Officials Meet JSP

SK2709110090 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1039 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] Pyongyang September 27 (KCNA)—Talks between delegations of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] and the Japan Socialist Party was held here today.

Present at the talks on our side were Kim Yong-sun, secretary of the WPK Central Committee and vice-chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly [SPA] and deputy to the SPA, and deputies to the SPA Choe Su-kil, director of a department of the WPK Central Committee, Chong Chun-ki, vice-chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee and chairman of the Korean Society for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries, Choe Mun-son, chief secretary of the Pyongyang Municipal Committee of the WPK, and Yi Mong-ho, director of the Secretariat of the SPA Standing Committee; An Tong-yun and Kim Yang-kon, vice-directors of departments of the WPK Central Committee; and Chon Yon-ok, vice-chairman of the Korean Society for Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries; and deputies to the SPA Kim Yo-ung, director of the Korean Civil Aviation Company, and Nam Sun-hui, rector of Pyongyang College of Teachers.

Present on the opposite side were head of the delegation Mr. Makoto Tanabe, vice-chairman of the Central Executive Committee of the Japan Socialist Party and member of the House of Representatives, deputy head of the delegation Wataru Kubo, vice-chairman of the Central Executive Committee of the JSP and member of the House of Councillors, secretary of the delegation Satao Yamahana, deputy secretary general of the party Central Executive Committee and member of the House of Representatives, deputy secretary of the delegation Hajime Fukada, member of the Central Executive Committee of the party and director of its people's movement department and member of the House of Councillors, and members of the delegation Taneaki Tanami, member of the Central Executive Committee of the party and director of its information department and member of the House of Representatives, Masagatsu Takigi, member of the Central Executive Committee and director of the organ of the party, and vice-chairmen of the party committee for measures on the Korean affairs Takatoshi Fujita and Kogen Nosaka, member of the House of Representatives, and Terumi Kasuya, member of the House of Councillors, and Kinuko Obuchi, deputy secretary general of the party committee for measures on the Korean affairs and member of the House of Councillors.

Discussed at the talks were the question of further developing the relations between the two parties and strengthening support and solidarity between the Workers' Party of Korea and the Japan Socialist Party in a series of matters such as the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea, the improvement of Japan-Korea relations and establishment of a nuclear-free, peace zone in Northeast Asia.

The talks proceeded in a good atmosphere.

Delegation Attends Circus

SK2609223190 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1459 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] Pyongyang September 26 (KCNA)— Delegations of the Liberal Democratic Party and the Japan Socialist Party appreciated a circus show at the Pyongyang Circus Theatre on September 26.

Kim Yong-sun, secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, vice-chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly [SPA] and deputy to the SPA, and other officials concerned saw the performance with working people in the city.

The performance was acclaimed by the audience for its high ideological and artistic plane.

The guests presented a floral basket to the actors and actresses in congratulation of their successful performance.

South Urged To Discard 'Antinational Stand'

SK2709112090 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1019 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] Pyongyang September 27 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today comes out with an article titled "Anti-National Stand To Create 'Two Koreas' Must Be Discarded".

The article quotes the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song as saying:

"No one can stop or reverse any longer the general trend of the North and South to end national division and achieve reunification".

While saying they "hope for unification" and will "make efforts" for a successful progress of the high-level talks, the South Korean authorities are, in actuality, beclouding the prospect of North-South dialogue, persistently sticking to their divisive stand.

Their separatist stance finds expression, first of all, in that they are running wild with bloodshot eyes in the harsh suppression of the patriotic students and people desirous of independence, democracy and reunification, while prolonging the fascist "security politics" that has turned South Korea into a lawless land of bayonet rampage surpassing the "Yusin" rule and the "Fifth Republic" dictatorship.

They brutally suppress the democratic forces calling for free debate for reunification, participation in dialogue for reunification and reunification through alliance with communism and with the North.

The South Korean fascist clique scheme to intensify the anti-reunification, divisive moves still further in the future. This is illustrated by the fact that they decided to make appropriations for the coming year nearly five times those of this year for the "Security Planning Board" that resorts to every conceivable means to foster North-South confrontation and stifle the South Korean people's reunification movement.

The South Korean authorities' separatist attitude finds manifestation not only in their fascist suppression of the people desirous of reunification but also in their persistent belligerent moves against the North.

Entering September, the South Korean military fascist clique have staged together with the U.S. imperialist aggressors an air mobile exercise of infantry units, a forestalling attack exercise of "commandoes", a combined exercise of motorized infantry units, an exercise for moving the headquarters of a combined unit and other war gambles aimed at a surprise attack at the Northern half of the country, with the result that a permanent danger of war has been created on the Korean peninsula.

The confrontation row kicked up by the South Korean rulers has cast a shadow over inter-Korean dialogue, too. The North and the South are now making contacts between delegates to discuss the issue of sharing the same seat at the United Nations according to an agreement at the high-level talks.

The South Korean "foreign minister", however, recently said that since the sides agreed to discuss the un membership problem at the high-level talks, the South side will have the contact with the North side, but "there is no change in its stand" of unilaterily joining the un.

In invariably seeking the "simultaneous entry of the North and the South into the UN" or South Korea's "unilateral entry into the UN", the South Korean authorities pursue the goal of having the division of the country legalized internationally.

They must look straight at the nation's will for reunification and discontinue the anti-national criminal acts for the creation of "two Koreas".

Official Against 'Military Intervention' in Gulf

OW2709062290 Tokyo KYODO in English 0555 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] Pyongyang, Sept. 27 KYODO—North Korea's ruling Korean Workers' Party (KWP) Thursday warned against foreign military intervention being used in the Persian Gulf "on the pretext" of countering the Iraqi invasion and annexation of Kuwait.

The North Koreans stated their opposition to military intervention in a meeting with a delegation from Japan's ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), Japanese sources said. The LDP group is part of a bipartisan parliamentarian mission currently on a five-day visit to North Korea.

The North Koreans, led by Kim Yong-sun, the KWP secretary in charge of international affairs, told the Japanese that Pyongyang opposes Iraq's August 2 invasion of its tiny oil-rich neighbor but it thinks that the crisis should be resolved among the Arab states.

"The use of military forces by third parties on the pretext of the (Iraqi) invasion of Kuwait is dangerous," a Japanese source quoted the Korean side as saying.

Military Sources Report Air Strike Exercises

SK2609050590 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0451 GMT 26 Sep 90

[Text] Pyongyang September 26 (KCNA)—The U.S. imperialists mobilized formations of pursuit-assault planes, VTOL craft, assault planes, electronic jamming planes and transport planes such as FA-18, AV-8, AV-10, A-6, EA-6, C-141, C-130 based in Iwakuni and Yokoda in Japan in an aerial electronic warfare exercise and surprise attack exercise for a forestalling strike at the northern half of Korea in the sky above Kwangju, Osan, Kunsan and Kunwi, South Korea, over September 21-23, according to military sources.

The U.S. imperialists and the South Korean authorities mobilised many fighter-bombers belonging to the U.S. Seventh Air Force and the puppet air force in an air strike exercise against the north in the sky above Kangrung, Kwangju, Anmyondo and Kongju some ten times on September 21.

The number of the planes involved in it totalled about 510.

The South Korean puppets hurled some 20 C-123 transport planes carrying "commandoes" into the sky above Yongin and Sangju on September 21-22 for a parachuting exercise aimed at a surprise infiltration into the strategic depth of the northern half of the country.

In September, they held an airlifting exercise of an infantry unit, an exercise of helicoptering materials to "commandoes," a forestalling attack exercise of "commandoes," a coordinated exercise of a motorised infantry unit, a mobile exercise of the commanding group of a combined unit and a "guerrilla" exercise for a surprise attack on the northern half of Korea, inciting a war fever.

Facts show that the continued play with fire on the part of the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets is creating a constant danger of war on the Korean peninsula.

U.S. 'Must' Remove Nuclear Weapons From South

SK2709112990 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1029 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] Pyongyang September 27 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN in a by-lined article today says that though the U.S. rulers are resorting to every conceivable talk to keep nuclear weapons in South Korea on any account, they cannot provide justification for them.

The article says:

The U.S. rulers' intention to keep their troops and nuclear weapons in South Korea is contrary to their words, as they proclaimed an end to the cold war and the advent of an era of peace.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has taught:

"Speaking from the point of view of a fair deal, the United States is not at all justified in having brought nuclear weapons to South Korea and made it a nuclear base in confrontation with us who possess no nuclear arms."

Our Republic does not want the existence of nuclear weapons on the Korean peninsula, but opposes one side threatening and blackmailing the other with nuclear weapons, creating a danger of nuclear war on the Korean peninsula and thus infringing upon peace and security in Korea, Asia and the rest of the world.

That is why our Republic put forward the proposal to make the Korean peninsula a nuclear-free, peace zone and has made all sincere efforts for its realisation.

Under such condition, the United States has no reason to keep its nuclear weapons in South Korea.

The U.S. imperialists' nuclear policy in South Korea is quite contrary to the aim and demand of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty.

The United States, as a signatory under legal obligations to implement the treaty, must act in compliance with the spirit and demand of the treaty and dismantle nuclear weapons and nuclear bases in South Korea to remove a nuclear threat against the DPRK.

The U.S. rulers preach that the existence of U.S. troops and nuclear weapons in South Korea is "to ensure military equilibrium" and is a demand of the South Korean people. This is a nonsensical excuse which is not worth a farthing.

As for military equilibrium, the South Korean armed forces are, in fact, far superior to the North. It is an open secret that in South Korea there are about 1 million regular forces of the puppet army equipped with modern U.S.-made arms. The forces of our people's army are equal to or less than a half of them.

The U.S. Rulers are trying to continuously keep their troops and nuclear weapons in South Korea under the pretext of ensuring "military equilibrium" but it can never be justified.

Today foreign troop pullout and nuclear disarmament have become a trend worldwide. The United States is also showing signs of it in some regions. There is no ground for it to refuse the withdrawal of its troops and nuclear weapons from South Korea alone. If the U.S. forces and nuclear weapons in South Korea are aimed at other socialist countries, it must take a step to withdraw them from there now that it has signed a nuclear arms reduction treaty and is holding disarmament negotiations with the Soviet Union. And it must not refuse denuclearisation of the Korean peninsula as it agreed upon establishing a nuclear-free zone in Latin America.

The United States must renounce its old confrontation policy of the era of the cold war on the Korean peninsula, too, and withdraw its troops and nuclear weapons out of South Korea. Whether it does that or not is a touchstone showing whether its talk about peace and nuclear disarmament is true or not.

Kim Il-song Greets Malian President Traore

SK2109104190 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1032 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Text] Pyongyang September 21 (KCNA)—Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, on Wednesday sent a message of greetings to Moussa Traore, general secretary of the Malian People's Democratic Union and president of the Republic of Mali, on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the proclamation of the Republic of Mali.

The message notes that after the proclamation of the Republic the Malian people have made great strides forward on the road of building a new life.

Expressing the belief that the friendly and cooperative relations between the two countries will continue to develop, the message wishes him greater success in the work for national unity and the prosperity of the country.

Generals, Officers Attend Bulgarian Party

SK2509061190 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0600 GMT 25 Sep 90

[Text] Pyongyang September 25 (KCNA)—Mikhail Gigov, military attache of the Bulgarian embassy here, hosted a cocktail party Monday evening on the occasion of the 46th birthday of the Bulgarian People's Army.

Present at the party were general of the Korean People's Army [KPA] Kim Pong-yul, and other KPA generals and officers and military attaches of diplomatic missions here.

Bulgarian Ambassador Georgi Stoyanov was on hand.

Speeches were exchanged there.

O Chin-u Sends Greeting to Bulgarian Counterpart

SK2209101890 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1013 GMT 22 Sep 90

[Text] Pyongyang September 21 (KCNA)—Vice Marshal of the Korean People's Army O Chin-u, minister of People's Armed Forces, sent a message of greetings to General Dobri Dzhurov, minister of national defence of the Bulgarian People's Republic, on the occasion of the day of the Bulgarian People's Army.

The message wishes him success in his work for increasing the country's defence capabilities.

O Chin-u Greets Mozambican Defense Minister

SK2409112190 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1037 GMT 24 Sep 90

[Text] Pyongyang September 24 (KCNA)—Vice Marshal of the Korean People's Army O Chin-u, minister of People's Armed Forces, sent a message of greetings to General Alberto Joaquim Chipande, minister of national defence of the People's Republic of Mozambique, on the occasion of the 26th founding anniversary of the Mozambique Liberation People's Army.

Expressing the belief that the friendly and cooperative relations between the two peoples and armies will further develop in scope in the interests of the two peoples, the message wishes him greater success in his responsible work for increasing the defence capabilities of the country.

World Maritime Day Marked by Lectures

SK2609050990 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0456 GMT 26 Sep 90

[Text] Pyongyang September 26 (KCNA)—A lecture was given in Pyongyang on September 25 on world maritime day.

It was attended by officials concerned and scientists and technicians on marine pollution.

Herbjorn T. Henriksen [name as received], regional adviser on marine pollution in Asia and the Pacific of the international maritime organization, was also present.

Pak Chong-il, director of the Maritime Affairs Bureau of Korea, gave a lecture on "world maritime day and prevention of marine pollution."

Herbjorn T. Henriksen spoke next.

Science Delegation Departs, Journalists Arrive

SK2309085190 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0831 GMT 23 Sep 90

[Text] Pyongyang September 23 (KCNA)—A delegation of the State Commission of Science and Technology of Korea led by its Vice-Chairman Kim Ung-ho left here Saturday to participate in a special meeting of the World Intellectual Property Organization slated in Switzerland.

On the same day Kamal Sekhir, chief editor of the Indian paper HINT and his companion arrived here to attend the international training course for journalists to be held in Korea.

Arriving earlier were Abdul Ghafur Shokor, editor-in-chief of the Afgan paper KABUL NEW TIMES, and his companion and Rui Da Silva Matos Dias, acting director of the Portuguese paper NOTICIAS DA AMADORA and his companion.

Kim Yong-nam Meets New Guinean Ambassador

SK2009113990 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1019 GMT 20 Sep 90

[Text] Pyongyang September 20 (KCNA)—Vice-Premier and Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam today met and conversed with Abou Camara, new ambassador e.p. [extraordinary and plenipotentiary] of Guinea to Korea, who paid a courtesy call on him.

Han Pong-ha Appointed Ambassador to Vanuatu

SK2109111090 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1023 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Text] Pyongyang September 21 (KCNA)—According to a decree of the Central People's Committee of the

Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Han Pong-ha was appointed as DPRK Ambassador e. p. to the Republic of Vanuatu.

Asiad Scientific Conference Held in Beijing

SK2109112190 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1026 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Text] Beijing September 20 (KCNA)—The Beijing Asian Games scientific congress was held in Beijing over September 16-20.

The congress held under the theme of "Sport Science and Future" was attended by 34 countries and regions including the DPRK, China, India, Indonesia and Thailand.

The DPRK sport science symposium delegation took the floor at the congress grouped in 9 divisions with such papers as "Sports in the DPRK Made To Be Popular and a Daily Routine," "Study of the Physical Development of School Youth and Children Who Join in the Performance Teams of the Mass Gymnastic Display," "Study of a Model of Female Marathoner" and "Study of the Method of Selection of Athletes."

Noting that the great leader President Kim Il-song and dear Comrade Kim Chong-il laid down an outstanding and wise policy of developing sport science in Korea long ago, the speakers academically and profoundly proved the validity and vitality of the policy.

They explained that sports is becoming popular and a daily routine in Korea in keeping with the development of the Korea-style socialist society on the basis of the chuche outlook on social history.

They also referred to the enormous achievements made in the development of sport science in Korea.

Central Committee Greets Netherlands CP Head

SK2209044790 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0405 GMT 22 Sep 90

[Text] Pyongyang September 22 (KCNA)—The Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea Friday sent a message of greetings to Truus Divendal-Klok upon her election as chairman of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Netherlands.

Expressing the belief that the friendly and cooperative relations between the two parties will grow stronger and develop, the message sincerely wishes the Communist Party of the Netherlands and its chairman new success in the responsible work for peace, democracy and the vital interests of the working masses.

Papers Mark Republic of Mali's 30th Anniversary

SK2209055390 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0501 GMT 22 Sep 90

[Text] Pyongyang September 22 (KCNA)—Papers here today dedicate articles to the 30th anniversary of the proclamation of the Republic of Mali.

The proclamation of the Republic of Mali was an important political event which opened a new epoch in the life of the Malian people, the signed article of NODONG SINMUN says.

Noting that over the past 30 years the Malian people have struggled to build a new independent and prosperous country, it says:

Today the party and Government of Mali have set it as an important way of getting over the present social and economic difficulties and stepping up the development of the country for the entire people to unite and implement the idea and slogan of the party.

We rejoice over the achievements of the Malian people in the building of a new independent society under the correct leadership of President Moussa Traore.

Korea and Mali are adhering to the principles of independence against imperialism and non-alignment and the two peoples are struggling to promote the common cause of progressive mankind.

In this course, the bonds of friendship and solidarity between the two countries and two peoples have been strengthened and cooperation and exchange have become closer.

We will in the future, too, upgrade the friendly and cooperative relations with the Malian people.

The signed article of MINJU CHOSON notes that the Korean people sincerely wish the Malian people greater success in their efforts for building an independent new society.

Movement To Win 'Red Flag' Stressed

SK2309042890 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 0008 GMT 20 Sep 90

[NODONG SINMUN 20 September editorial: "Let Us Further Intensify the Party's Leadership for the Movement To Win the Red Flag of Three Revolutions"]

[Text] Reality—in which socialist construction is deepening and developing, and heavy revolutionary tasks are put forward—demands that we further kindle the flames for the movement to win the Red Flag of three revolutions.

Comrade Kim Chong-il, member of the Political Bureau Presidium and secretary of the party Central Committee, has noted: The movement to win the Red Flag of three revolutions should be further launched and developed.

More powerfully launching the movement to win the Red Flag of three revolutions is a basic way to effect a constant production upsurge and to display highly our country's superiority. Only when this movement is launched can all working people be fully prepared politically and ideologically. By so doing, they can more firmly strengthen the forces of our revolution and further consolidate and develop our socialist system.

The party organizations at every level should concentrate more powerful party forces on the movement to win the Red Flag of three revolutions, in keeping with the real development demand to further launch the movement to win the Red Flag of three revolutions. What is important in launching the movement to win the Red Flag of three revolutions is, above all, that the party organizations should steadfastly promote the work to create a social atmosphere for this movement. Creating an atmosphere for a mass movement is a prerequisite to the success of the mass movement. Therefore, party organizations should promote the work to create an atmosphere not as temporary work but as daily and steadfast work.

For the past period, we have properly created an atmosphere for a mass movement, effecting a great success in the mass movement. Not content with such success, the party organizations and functionaries should expand and develop this success and concentrate great forces on the work to create the atmosphere. By mobilizing propaganda and agitation, the party organizations should further intensify the work, through new form and method, to lead the entire country. Every unit should be filled with an atmosphere for the movement to win the Red Flag of three revolutions.

In particular, with the approach of the publication anniversary of the dear comrade leader's historic document, "Let Us More Powerfully Launch the Movement To Win the Red Flag of Three Revolutions," we should more properly create the atmosphere for this movement and more highly kindle the flames for this movement. The party organizations and functionaries should more deeply study, learn, and embody the ideology, theory, and implementation method, which were put forward in the document. In particular, it is important for the party organizations and functionaries to energetically carry out political work to lead the masses to realize the ideology, theory, and implementation method.

In addition, what is more important in further launching the movement to win the Red Flag of three revolutions is to set up a specific target, which accurately represents the demand of the development of reality, and to carry out work to supplement and renew the target. The course to promote the movement to win the Red Flag of three revolutions is a course to set up a specific target which represents the demand of reality and to carry out the target.

Reality is constantly changing and developing. Thus, tasks which need to be newly settled are put forward in succession. The party organizations should correctly set the specific target which should be promoted permanently in all fields, including ideological, technological, and cultural fields. In addition, they should pay careful attention to supplementing and renewing the resolved target in accordance with the demand of the party policy.

Today, our party, upholding the policy speech of the great leader, has put forward the tasks which will more highly display the superiority of socialism and to indefatigably fight on with the most national dignity and pride. And, with a focus on work leading the party members and the working people to cherish deep in their minds confidence in our socialism and to powerfully advance toward a single road of chuche while treasuring endless loyalty to the party and the leader and immortal confidence come what may, the party organizations should clearly set up a specific target.

Dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il recently put forward a task that more people—who highly display the glory of the nation in every revolutionary outpost—should be meritorious. The party organizations should see to it that all working people clearly and practically set up a specific target to achieve exploits glorifying the honor of the fatherland in their revolutionary outposts. By so doing, amidst the flames of the movement to win the Red Flag of three revolutions, the party organizations should see to it that a new miracle and innovation should be effected, that more scientific and technological inventions should be made, and that quality of goods should be guaranteed at the highest level.

What is important in setting up a specific target at present is to lead the working people to more highly display a sound and noble cultural emotion and living ethos. The party organizations should see to it that the working people set up a specific target, so as to learn from, and correctly follow, the revolutionary living ethos derived from Mt. Paektu forest during the anti-Japanese period.

The masses are the teachers. In addition, it is the masses that are responsible for accomplishing a set task. The party organizations and functionaries should go deep into the masses, carefully listen to their opinions, and set up more realistic goals based on their opinions. The party organizations and functionaries should concretely supplement and renew individual goals, goals showing what work should be done by the masses and when.

In particular, in intensifying the party's leadership in the movement to win the Red Flag of the three revolutions, it is important that the struggle to accomplish a set task be positively launched. The party organizations should intensify indoctrination work, leading the party members and the working people to practically reach a set goal, while examining every aspect of the goal. Along with this, they should be very wary of erroneous phenomena, including formalism.

Powerfully launching a speed battle is an important demand for successfully reaching a set goal. All party members and the working people should abandon the relaxed attitude of overestimating the time it takes to reach a set goal, should reach the goal without fail in a timely manner, and should carry out a new higher task. In addition, in intensifying the party's leadership in the movement to win the Red Flag of three revolutions, as demanded by reality, it is important to enhance the roles of the responsible functionaries of the party committees at every level. The responsible functionaries of the party committees at every level should more firmly acquire the stand and image of commanding leaders who personally adhere to and lead the movement to win the Red Flag of the three revolutions.

The responsible functionaries should launch the movement to win the Red Flag of the three revolutions as a task of the party committee, should thoroughly understand and grasp the entire situation, including assignment, guidance work, summation, and evaluation work. By so doing, they should take corresponding measures.

Not being content with leading the departments of the party to launch the movement, the responsible functionaries should steadfastly promote the work to develop a new plan, set up an operation, and lead the movement.

In launching the movement to win the Red Flag of the three revolutions, it is important for party organizations to reflect various problems related to this movement in the plan of monthly, quarterly, and yearly work, as an important work, in connection with the movement to win the Red Flag of the three revolutions. And, it is important for them to carefully carry out the work of assigning tasks and to regularly grasp and control its course.

The party organizations should correctly regulate functions in the departments of the party committee to powerfully promote the movement to win the Red Flag of the three revolutions and should properly carry out cooperation between departments of party committees. When the party functionaries, including responsible functionaries, conduct guidance work for low-echelon units and lead the party conference, they should understand the course of launching the movement to win the Red Flag of the three revolutions, correct arising erroneous contents, and take measures to powerfully launch this movement.

In intensifying the party's leadership in the movement to win the Red Flag of the three revolutions, it is important to enhance the roles of party organizations, the working people's organizations, members of three revolutions teams, and functionaries of administrative and economic organs.

In guiding the movement to win the Red Flag of the three revolutions, the party organizations should put forward the working people's organizations and enhance their roles.

The working people's organizations should actively carry out ideological indoctrination work and mass political work so as to positively inspire members of the organizations to join the movement to win the Red Flag of the three revolutions. The members of three revolutions teams are both vanguards of the three revolutions and core forces of our party. The party organizations should lead the members of three revolutions teams to positively help the work to vigorously launch the movement to win the Red Flag of the three revolutions in the concerned units and should lead them to set an example in carrying out the three revolutions.

The movement to win the Red Flag of the three revolutions is work that is carried out with economic organs, enterprises, cooperative farms, work sites, and work teams as a unit. And, the movement is closely linked to carrying out administrative and economic tasks. The functionaries in administrative and economic organs should look upon the powerful promotion of the movement to win the Red Flag of the three revolutions as their own work, participate in this movement as befitting the master, and support the raised enthusiasm of the masses in an administrative and working manner.

Also, it is important to enhance the sense of responsibility and roles of youths and three revolutions teams. Youths and the three revolutions teams should correctly grasp the work course of the units that rise up in the movement to win the Red Flag of the three revolutions. In addition, they should properly conduct the work of recommending the units that reach set goals, of evaluating the units that reach the demanded standard, and of properly carrying out the work of awarding the Red Flag of the three revolutions.

All party members and functionaries should thoroughly carry out the party's intention of more positively launching the movement to win the Red Flag of the three revolutions, in conformity with the demands of the developing reality. By so doing, they should accelerate this movement throughout the country and should more powerfully beat the drum of the revolution.

'Large Quantities' of Methanol Produced

SK2609103590 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1031 GMT 26 Sep 90

[Text] Pyongyang September 26 (KCNA)—The fertilizer plant of the Sunchon vinalon complex has begun to produce methanol in large quantities on the threshold of the 45th anniversary of the founding of the Workers' Party of Korea (October 10). This opened a prospect for a steady production of vinalon and vinyl chloride resin at the complex.

The scientists and technicians of the complex solved the scientific and technological problems arising in the production of methanol and succeeded in producing methanol in large quantities with gas obtained in the course of carbide production.

The builders have carried out in a short period a huge construction project including the compressor shop, the gas refining shop, the methanol shop and the catalyst shop. The large amount of methanol is supplied to different sectors including the vinalon plant.

Importance of Collective Self-Reliance Declared

SK2609102590 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1011 GMT 26 Sep 90

[Text] Pyongyang September 26 (KCNA)—To develop South-South cooperation on the basis of collective self-reliance is an important lever for strengthening unity and solidarity among non-aligned and other developing countries.

NODONG SINMUN today says this in an article entitled "collective self-reliance is important way of South-South cooperation".

The article quotes the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song as saying:

"We will develop South-South cooperation in all fields of politics, the economy and culture on the principle of collective self-reliance".

The article reads in part:

An important task facing non-aligned and other developing countries is to develop South-South cooperation on the principle of collective self-reliance.

Collective self-reliance is a common ideal and fighting principle of developing countries to shape their destinies by themselves through unity and cooperation.

It is of primary importance in building an independent economy that non-aligned and other developing countries which, freed from the subjugation and oppression by imperialism and colonialism, embarked upon the road of building independent and sovereign states should bring the spirit of self-reliance into full play.

Only when each country adheres to the principle of self-reliance can it make the best use of its domestic human and material resources and develop economic cooperation among developing countries, overcoming difficulties and hardships.

South-South cooperation based on collective self-reliance is the most important strategic way of jointly countering the imperialist policy of aggression and plunder.

The natural resources of developing countries and the fruits of labour of their peoples are now flowing into the capitalist countries at cheap prices as a result of the protectionism of the imperialists and the inequitable trade relations forced by them, and the phenomena of "the rich gets ever richer and the poor poorer" are taking a turn for the worse worldwide with each passing day.

The developing countries, therefore, should by all means realize South-South cooperation on the principle of collective self-reliance, ending dependence upon the imperialist countries, if they are to free themselves from the present difficult position and attain complete economic self-support.

Collective self-reliance is an important way of South-South cooperation, next, because it makes the inequitable old international economic order powerless and makes it possible to establish a new equitable international economic order.

If they are to extricate themselves from the economic deadlocks as today and make success in the building of an independent national economy, developing countries have no other choice but to conduct exchanges among themselves and actively cooperate with each other on the principle of collective self-reliance.

The process of adhering to the principle of collective self-reliance in the development of South-South cooperation will exert a great effect on the political unity of the non-aligned countries and, furthermore, actively contribute to strengthening unity and cohesion of the Non-Aligned Movement as a whole.

It is the consistent stand of the DPRK Government to strive for South-South cooperation among non-aligned and other developing countries on the principle of collective self-reliance.

The DPRK Government will in the future, too, faithfully discharge its internationalist obligation in the noble work for South-South cooperation.

New Latex Process To Increase Production

SK2509220190 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1459 GMT 25 Sep 90

[Text] Pyongyang September 25 (KCNA)—A modern rubber latex production process has been built at the Chongsu chemical factory in Korea.

Based on our own technique, equipment and material, this process is designed to produce rubber latex enough to annually turn out 5 million square metres of leatherette, 10,000 square metres of sponge rubber and 600 tons of gum arabic.

It will greatly contribute to increasing the production of shoes and other light industrial goods.

The builders have built a dry acetylene process, a latex forwarding place and other facilities in a short span of time.

They have also completed groundworks for equipment at many units.

Decree on Awarding Honorary Title Issued

SK2209014390 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 1200 GMT 16 Sep 90

[DPRK Central People's Committee decree awarding honorary titles to soldiers and functionaries—no date given]

[Text] The DPRK Central People's Committee issued a decree awarding honorary titles to soldiers and functionaries who contributed to the construction of a waterway tunnel, including a link between Sinchon and Kangnyong, in Sohae District.

The decree points out that a DPRK honorary title and "Labor Medal" are awarded to soldiers and functionaries who have made a great contribution by meritoriously carrying out assigned work in major construction programs, have worked in construction and planning for a long time, and have contributed greatly to accelerating the waterway tunnel of the Sohae district by introducing advanced construction work methods.

The title of "DPRK Meritorious Planner" and a "Labor Medal": Pak Sang-hun, director of the first planning department of South Pyongyang Provincial Agricultural Construction Planning Station [ACPS]; Chu Chongnyon, chief technician of the North Pyongyang Provincial ACPS; and Yi Chong-hak, chief technician of the South Hwanghae Provincial ACPS.

The title "DPRK Meritorious Technician" and a "Labor Medal": Pak Pyong-yul, noncommissioned officer of the Korean People's Army.

Construction of Revolution Exhibition Reported

SK2709222990 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1508 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] Pyongyang September 26 (KCNA)—The three revolution exhibition is taking shape at a fast speed in the Yonmot-dong district, Pyongyang.

The constructors have carried out a huge project of underground networks and the roadbed project of the main road and assembled the skeleton of the exhibition over the last eight months or more.

The exhibition whose plottage is more than 1.1 million square metres is divided into a heavy industry hall, an introductory hall, an agricultural hall, a light industry hall, an electronic industry hall and a new technological innovation hall lining the main road 100 metre wide, totalling 80,000 square metres in floor space.

A man-made lake will appear there and an open-air theatre, a restaurant and other public service facilities be built around it.

A parking lot of 60,000 square metres will be built.

In December last year, dear Comrade Kim Chong-il personally saw its layout and taught that the three revolution exhibition should be built like a street with the road lined with exhibition halls and the architects should be built on the highest level. He entrusted Korean People's Army soldiers with its construction.

Having set themselves the goal of finishing the frame assembling of exhibition halls including roofing by the end of the year, the soldier-builders are carrying on the construction plan of each stage two months or more ahead of schedule.

South Korea

Date Set for Second Round of N-S Working Talks

SK2609124590 Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean 26 Sep 90 p 1

[Text] In a contact held between responsible liaison officials on the afternoon of 25 September in the "House of Peace" in the our area of Panmunjom, the South and North agreed to hold the second round of talks between working delegates at 1000 on 5 October in the conference room of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission to discuss the issue of admission into the United Nations.

Editorial Views Seoul-Tokyo-Pyongyang Relations

SK2709003090 Seoul SEOUL SINMUN in Korean 25 Sep 90 p 2

[Editorial: "Improvement of Relations Between Japan and North Korea and Our Stand"]

[Text] A Japanese party delegation is making an official visit to North Korea for the first time. Under the circumstances in which the cold war situation is disappearing in Asia, the fact that Japan, one of the four superpowers surrounding the Korean peninsula, is promoting relations with North Korea draws our attention.

In connection with the current trend of restructuring the world order, we hope that peace and friendly, amicable diplomatic relations in East Asia will constantly grow and develop. Proceeding from this viewpoint, we note the moves to improve relations between Japan and North Korea, because we expect that such moves can contribute to alleviating tension on the Korean peninsula and to establishing peace and order in East Asia. We, however, cannot help keeping our eyes on the Japan's and North Korea's hasty approach.

In conclusion, we want Japan, a nation friendly to us, increasingly to promote improved relations and friendly cooperation with North Korea, on the basis of an improvement of relations between North Korea and South Korea. Something else that we want is that such a Japanese effort be made with the condition that North Korea give up its intent to communize the South through reunification.

The Japanese should keep in mind that when President No Tae-u and Japanese Prime Minister Kaifu Toshiki held a summit talk last May, they agreed that it is desirable for

Japan to promote relations with North Korea, under the preconditions that North Korea should practically develop North-South dialogue and that North Korea should sign a nuclear safeguard treaty. While hastily promoting improved relations with North Korea—and claiming a position as a country connected with the Korean peninsula and as an economic power—Japan should not mar its friendly relations with the ROK.

Now, there are some pending issues between Japan and North Korea. More than anything else, there is the issue of releasing the crew members of the Japanese ship Fujisan Maru under detention in North Korea. We expect that the long-standing dispute will be settled humanely this time. If the issue concerning the Fujisan Maru is settled, we agree with the principle that Japan should appropriately compensate and apologize to North Korea for its imperialist colonial rule. By so doing, Japan can prompt North Korea to open its door. Likewise, this is the very way that North Korea can avoid international isolation and that it can discharge its duty as a partner, which is related with the settlement of Korean peninsula issues.

At the same time, we would deem the establishment of mutual trade offices in Tokyo and Pyongyang between Japan and North Korea as positive. With the establishment of trade offices as an impetus, we expect that North Korea will courageously open its door, thereby promoting improved relations with Japan and the United States. We also expect that an amicable atmosphere would be created for promoting friendship, mutual cooperation, and development in East Asia and particularly on the Korean peninsula in particular. Thus we hope that the cold war will come to an end.

We do not oppose Japan efforts to normalize relations with North Korea, in view of the developing international situation and a nation's right to exercise sovereignty. Japan, however, should never forget the basic principle that "the ROK is the only legitimate government on the Korean peninsula" which Japan confirmed in Article Three of the ROK-Japan Basic Treaty, which Japan signed with our country in 1965. In addition, we believe that Japan may understand our position that the speed of developing relations with North Korea should not surpass that of developing relations between North and South Korea. Japan should discharge its duty as a friendly country always so as to keep the principle of the basic treaty, which it signed with the ROK.

Kim-Deng Meeting 'Confirmed' by Chinese Source

SK2609120090 Seoul Domestic Service in Korean 0800 GMT 26 Sep 90

[Report by correspondent Pak Tong-song from Beijing]

[Text] It has been confirmed that North Korean President Kim Il-song met with Deng Xiaoping and the two held secret summit talks when Kim visited Shenyang on 11 September.

A source in Beijing quoted a Chinese intelligence official as confirming that North Korean President Kim Il-song held summit talks with Deng Xiaoping—the supreme leader in China—while was staying in Shenyang, China for two days and three nights—from 11 to 13 September.

The source said that a somewhat important agreement was reached at the summit talks. The content of the agreement reached between China and North Korea, however, has not yet been confirmed. The source also said that a satisfactory agreement on jointly coping with the changes in the international situation prompted by the recent open door policy in the Soviet Union and East bloc, might have been reached.

It is known that, in the talks, Deng Xiaoping agreed in principle with the North Korean diplomatic line of one Korea, and that he notified Kim Il-song that China would gradually and prudently cope with the question of normalizing its relations with the ROK, according to progress in relations between North Korea and Japan and the United States.

At the same time, the source speculated that because China has to consider the stand of North Korea, with which China has traditional friendly relations, it cannot help but superficially maintain a certain distance with the ROK for the time being. The source also speculated that it is necessary to promote relations between China and the ROK through continuous behind-the-scenes contacts in order to normalize relations between the two countries.

DPRK Ambassador to USSR Still in Pyongyang

SK2709090090 Seoul YONHAP in English 0725 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] New York, Sept. 27 (YONHAP)—Son Song-pil, North Korean ambassador to the Soviet Union, has not been at his post in Moscow since abruptly flying home four months ago.

Kong No-myong, head of the South Korean Consular Department in Moscow, said Thursday that Son is still in Pyongyang, where he returned in May, just prior to the Supreme People's Assembly. The North Korean Government says Son extended his stay for medical reasons, Kong said in New York, where he is attending the 45th U.N. General Assembly.

Son was named ambassador to Moscow earlier this year. Seoul officials suggest his delayed return may be a sign of Pyongyang's unhappiness at moves by the Soviet government to form official ties with South Korea.

DPRK 'Understands' Moscow-Seoul Relations

SK2709004190 Seoul HANGUK ILBO in Korean 25 Sep 90 p 2

[YONHAP report from Tokyo]

[Text] Aleksandr Dzasokhov, member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, third in rank in the CPSU, on 23 September said that North Korea understands the improving of relations between the ROK and the Soviet Union.

Politburo Member Dzasokhov said this when he met the Japanese MAINICHI SHIMBUN delegation visiting the Soviet Union at the CPSU Central Committee headquarters. In connection with North Korea's objection to the development of ROK-USSR relations, he said, "the improvement of relations between North and South Korea will play a significant role not only on the Korean peninsula but in Asia and the Pacific region as a whole as well." He added, "for this reason the Soviet Union is significantly advancing its relations with the ROK, and North Korea also understands this."

Secret Meeting Reported With Pak, Yi in Beijing

SK2609225190 Seoul YONHAP in English 1448 GMT 26 Sep 90

[Text] Beijing, Sept. 26 (YONHAP)—Rep. Pak Chol-on, former state minister for political affairs, has secretly met with North Korean Vice President Yi Chong-ok on three occasions during his five-day long stay here, informed sources said Wednesday. Pak and Yi discussed opening direct exchanges in various fields in their meetings which were believed to have been held at Beijing Hotel and Kunlun Hotel, according to the sources.

Both Pak and Yi had arrived in Beijing on Sept. 21. Pak said that he came to China on personal affairs. Yi returned to Pyongyang Tuesday while Pak left Beijing on his trip to eastern China to visit Dalian and Yanbian. Pak will meet with leaders of ethnic Korean communities there to discuss affairs concerning them and return to Beijing on Sunday.

While staying in Beijing, Pak will have a series of meetings with Chinese officials to discuss exchanges of trade officies and other issues pending between China and South Korea.

Pak will return to Seoul by Oct. 4.

Seoul Claims No Knowledge

SK2709095890 Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean 27 Sep 90 p 2

[Text] Commenting on the rumor concerning lawmaker Pak Chol-on's meeting with North Korean Vice President Yi Chong-ok, Chongwadae [presidential residence] and the Foreign Ministry said, "We have not received any report on it nor do we have any knowledge of it."

Chon Kum-chol 'Secretly' Visits Beijing

SK2609014590 Seoul SEOUL SINMUN in Korean 25 Sep 90 p 1

[Text] Tokyo, YONHAP—Chon Kum-chol, vice chairman of the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland of North Korea, is secretly visiting Beijing now, according to a KYODO report from Beijing on 24 September, citing a North Korean source.

Choe To Meet PRC Foreign Minister in New York

SK2709122990 Seoul KYONGHYANG SINMUN in Korean 27 Sep 90 p 2

[Report by correspondent Song Yong-sung from New York]

[Text] It was learned on 26 September that Foreign Minister Choe Ho-chung will meet Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen at a dinner party for the foreign ministers of the Asia-Pacific countries at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel in New York on the evening of 27 September (local time) and that the two will exchange views on the issue of improving ROK-PRC relations, the issue of the Korean peninsula, and the northeast Asian situation in general.

This is the first time the foreign ministers of the ROK and China will meet at an official function, albeit a dinner party.

Seoul, Beijing Mayors To Promote Exchanges

SK2709011190 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 27 Sep 90 p 3

[Text] Seoul and Beijing will seek to promote cultural and sports exchanges between Tokyo, Pyongyang and the capital cities of China and South Korea, it was disclosed yesterday.

Seoul Mayor Ko Kun, who returned home Monday from a trip to China, said he and Beijing counterpart Chen Xitong had agreed to jointly push ahead with inter-city cultural and sports exchanges. Mayor Ko added that in line with the agreement, officials from Seoul and Beijing would hold working-level meetings on promotion of the cultural and sports exchanges sometime next month.

Mayor Ko visited Beijing to turn over to Mayor Chen the flag of the Asian Games now underway in the Chinese capital.

The agreement on enhancement of the civilian exchanges came Sunday when the mayors of Seoul and Beijing met at a working breakfast at the Beijing Hotel, Mayor Ko revealed. Explaining the background of the agreement, he said he proposed promotion of the three-way exchanges between Seoul, Beijing and Tokyo. But Mayor Chen counterproposed that the North Korean capital city of Pyongyang be also included in the cultural and sports exchanges, said Mayor Ko.

Mayor Ko added that he accepted the counterproposal of Mayor Chen readily.

The Seoul municipal authorities will invite the officials of Beijing early next month to visit Korea for working-level meetings. The officials, Mayor Ko said, will discuss at the meetings formalities, dates and other matters related to promotion of the four-way exchanges. Beijing will play a leading role in encouraging Pyongyang to participate in the four-way exchange.

The mayors of Seoul and Beijing, meanwhile, were learned to have discussed the joint study of cultural relics, research on preservation of cultural assets and regular exchanges of youth basketball teams as part of the efforts to further the cultural and sports exchanges between the two cities.

Direct China Flights Likely After Asiad

SK2709012590 Seoul YONHAP in English 0116 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] Beijing, Sept. 27 (OANA-YONHAP)—South Korea-China direct charter flights are likely to continue for three more months after the Beijing Asian Games ends early next month, a senior Korean official said Thursday. The official, requesting anonymity, said the two countries agreed in principle to extend the flight services, totaling 172 ferries by the Korean side and 62 rounds by China.

Despite lack of diplomatic ties, airline companies from both countries will operate the routes commensurate with an international aviation agreement, the official said. The agreement is for three months only and renewable after that period, taking into consideration possible changes in bilateral relations after the Asiad, according to the official.

South Korea and China are making 114 chartered flights during the Asian Games. Flights from Seoul are being shared by Korean Air and Asiana Airlines, who are vying to win a permanent direct route with the communist country.

China Allows Hyundai To Hire 'Ethnic Koreans'

SK2509005790 Seoul YONHAP in English 0051 GMT 25 Sep 90

[Text] Beijing, Sept. 25 (YONHAP)—Jilin Province has given the Hyundai Business Group of South Korea permission to hire ethnic Koreans living in the Northeast Chinese region for a forestry project in Siberia, group founder Chong Chu-yong said Monday. "We have agreed with the authorities in Jilin Province to start with 500 workers in December," Chong said. "Now we have permission from both Jilin Province and Soviet Finance Ministry to put the workers in."

The 72-year-old business mogul had been meeting with Jilin Governor Wang Zhongyu and other officials at the Jingguang Hotel in Beijing since he arrived on Friday to attend the Asian Games.

Chong said he had agreed to hire 3,000 ethnic Koreans for the Siberian project but declined to go into details. A Hyundai spokesman said the company sent 200 Koreans from Jilin to the Soviet far eastern port of Svetlaya to begin logging on Sept. 17.

Hyundai obtained Soviet approval for the project last December.

Soviet Consul-General in Seoul Interviewed

SK2709012190 Seoul Domestic Service in Korean 2300 GMT 26 Sep 89

[Interview with Loengrin Eremenko, Soviet Consul-General in Seoul, by reporter Kim Chong-un held on 26 September, place not identified, Eremenko speaks in Korean—recorded]

[Text] [Kim Chong-un] Considering the summit held between the two countries last June, we can say that the relations between the two countries have practically been normalized. The upcoming talks between the foreign ministers of the two countries would be the first of its kind between the ROK and the Soviet Union. With regard to this, some people think that the talks will only be a procedural meeting prior to establishing diplomatic relations. What do you say about this?

[Loengrin Eremenko] Our two countries have lived without any relations for as many as 80 years. Only since September 1988, in other words, since the Seoul Olympic Games, have relations been established between the Soviet Union and the ROK and the speed of the development of these relations has been becoming even faster with each passing day. In several days, ROK Foreign Minister Choe Ho-chung and Soviet Foreign Minister Shevardnadze will hold their first talks in history—in New York. The two ministers, at the talks, will officially announce the establishing of diplomatic relations between the two countries. I think that the specific date on which diplomatic relations are to be established will undoubtedly be decided at the talks. I also expect that the protocol on the establishment of diplomatic relations would be tentatively inked.

[Kim] What is said by our government and by Soviet broadcasts on many occasions indicates that the date of establishing formal relations will be set for some day next month or, at least, in November. Have you ever heard anything about this?

[Eremenko] Since my arrival in Seoul, many ROK citizens have often asked me when ROK-Soviet diplomatic relations will be established. As far as I know, it is not difficult to answer this question. As you know, in June of this year, in San Francisco, President Gorbachev and President No Tae-u held a summit, and in the course of the summit the heads of the two states agreed in principle to establish diplomatic relations. Thus, the establishment of Soviet-ROK diplomatic relations is only a matter of time now and I think that there is absolutely no obstacle whatsoever to establishing diplomatic relations between our two countries.

[Kim] Then, do you think that, in establishing formal relations with the ROK, the Soviet Union would ignore North Korea's position?

[Eremenko] In principle, our basic stand is that we will never damage our existing relations with North Korea, while developing the relations with the ROK. In the future, too, we will simultaneously develop our relations with your country and North Korea. This is precisely our principle.

[Kim] It has been made known that the Soviet Union has been strongly urging North Korea's open door and reform. How do you think North Korea, with the Kim Il-song system, has been reacting to this?

[Eremneko] We have no right to give advice on anything to another country, be it the ROK or be it North Korea. We only, to some degree, tell them what we do in our country. This is precisely what we do with your country and other foreign countries. So, we have no right to give advice. What kind of life North Korean residents live and what their future will be and so on are strictly their internal affair. Thus, we are not supposed to interfere in those issues.

[Kim] Since you have come as the consul-general, what has been your impression of the ROK citizens?

[Eremenko] The people are very actively working. I have seen that they are contributing greatly to the prosperity of their country. As for the nature of your country, I have read many books about it and I have now become even better aware of it. However, I have had no opportunity yet to see it myself. My impression of your country is very good.

Soviets in Seoul Donate Funds for Flood Victims

SK2709015790 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 27 Sep 90 p 3

[Excerpt] The Soviet community in Seoul donated 240,000 won to The Korea Herald flood relief fund yesterday.

Valeriy K. Nazarov, who represents the USSR Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Korea, said the money was donated by staff members of the Soviet Consular Department, the Chamber of Commerce and Industry, and Aeroflot to help victims of the recent floods.

Trade Minister Meets With Soviet Official

SK2509072890 Seoul YONHAP in English 0658 GMT 25 Sep 90

[Text] Seoul, Sep. 25 (YONHAP)—Vice Yaroshenko, foreign economic relations minister of the Russian Republic, called on Trade and Industry Minister Pak Pil-su on Tuesday to discuss bilateral business cooperation. The discussion covered ways of starting economic exchanges in the future as well as inter-business cooperation, a ministry spokesman said.

Japan Accused of 'Foot-Dragging' on Agreement

SK2709024190 Seoul YONHAP in English 0156 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] Seoul, Sept. 27 (YONHAP)—A South Korean Trade and Industry Ministry Official Thursday accused Japan of failing to live up to pledges on technology and trade cooperation made during President No Tae-u's state visit to Tokyo in May.

Japan had agreed to cooperate in the automation of Korea's small- and medium-sized industry, undertake joint technical development projects between state-funded institutes, hold regular meetings between the trade and industry ministries, and dispatch an import promotion team to Korea.

The agreements were made at the request of Korea, which urged Japan to help solidify the technological base of Korean industry by correcting the chronic bilateral trade imbalance and transferring industrial technology. Under the accords, the two nations held a meeting of Trade and Industry Ministry officials early this month and Japan is to send a 150-member import promotion team to Korea next month.

But Japan rejected a recent request to transfer industrial technology to Korea under the agreement, said the official, who insisted on anonymity. Japanese insincerity has slowed progress in planning joint technology development projects between institutes, he said.

For industrial automation, Korea wants to send 1,210 technical trainees and specialists to Japan during the five years from next April, but Japan is not eager to accept them, he said.

Visiting Vietnamese Economist Urges Investment

SK2709020790 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 27 Sep 90 p 6

[Text] A member of a Vietnamese government mission which is visiting Korea to attract Korean investment has indicated that his country will no longer stick to the past in formulating relations with foreign countries in a future-oriented spirit.

"In relations with foreign countries, the Vietnamese government has many times reaffirmed a clear-cut stand to let bygones be by-gones and look straight into the future," Hoang Van Huan, an economist of the Vietnamese State Committee for Cooperation and Investment, said at a seminar in Seoul yesterday. "Every relations towards Vietnam with such a high-spirit are highly appreciated and respected by the Vietnamese government and people," Hoang told the seminar jointly hosted by the Korea Chamber of Commerce and Industry [KCCI], and Yonsei University's Institute of East and West Studies.

Hoang is a member of the nine-member Vietnamese government mission which is visiting Korea on a scheduled eight-day trip since Sunday to attract Korean investment as the first high-powered Vietnamese government delegation to come to Korea since the end of the Vietnam War in 1975. He extolled Korea's economic success by saying, "The rapid growth of South Korean economy is an example, an encouragement to developing countries, including Vietnam."

At the two-day seminar Tuesday and Wednesday, the Vietnam government's senior economic strategists explained Vietnam's new open-door policy and effort to induce foreign capital for its economic rehabilitation programs. If Korea's advanced technology, experience and good financial potential and Vietnam's rich natural resources, abundant and cheap labor force are combined, Hoang said, "We are sure to be able to develop many high quality products with cheap cost, taking hold of greater share in the Vietnamese and international markets."

"South Korea and Vietnam are not far from each other geographically. Your country has a well developed industry with high and advanced technology and has a good financial potential," the Vietnamese official told the seminar at the KCCI conference room. South Korea's growing investment in the North American region, he said, indicates that South Korea has good capital position and at the same time has technological and managerial standards which can compete with developed countries. Meanwhile, Vietnam is rich in natural resources, minerals and has abundant labor force, and due to historical and socio-economic situation, the labor cost, the living expenses and local price of raw materials are relative by low, Hoang said.

Asking for Korean businesses' active investment in Vietnam, the Vietnamese government economist stressed that the investment and cooperation between South Korea and Vietnam is not much and does not do justice to the potential of both sides. Up to the end of August, he said, the Vietnamese government's State Committee for Cooperation and Investment granted only four licenses to South Korean investors with total capital amount of $4,850,000. "It is a too small figure as compared to the capital invested abroad by South Korea in general and into Southeast Asian countries in particular," he said.

Hoang disclosed that a lot of South Korean companies have sent their representatives to Vietnam to investigate investment possibilities, have negotiations with Vietnamese partners and show their intention to make investment in some big projects. "We highly appreciate South Korean investors to join hands with us in doing business and promise to let you have favorable conditions in your business," he told the seminar.

On Vietnam's effort to shift its economy to market mechanism, he said that his government has taken a wide range of steps to remove barriers to such endeavors as old bureacratism, red tapes and subsidy. However, there is no denying, despite such an effort, the fact that in reality foreign investors still meet a lot of difficulties while operating in Vietnam at present, he said.

Vietnam amended its law on foreign investment in June to create more favor able conditions to foreign investors, he said. The revised law permits Vietnamese private enterprise to directly run a join venture with foreign investors in the production or business and allows many parties to be involved in a joint venture instead of only two parties so far, he said. Hoang said that the State Committee for Cooperation and Investment for which he works was created to guide and supervise foreign investment in Vietnam.

Vietnam is completing a list of project which will be given priority in calling foreign capital.

Economic Cooperation With Vietnam Likely in 1991

SK2709003190 Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean 25 Sep 90 p 6

[Text] A bilateral civilian-level economic cooperation organization is likely to be established during the first half of next year, at the earliest, to discuss ways for economic cooperation between the ROK and Vietnam. In connection with this, our country's economic mission is scheduled to visit Vietnam during the first half of next year.

A Vietnamese economic mission, which is now visiting the ROK at the invitation of Yonsei University's East-West Affairs Institute and the International Private Economic Council of Korea [IPCEK], exchanged a letter of intent on this plan on 24 September.

The letter of intent exchanged between IPCEK Vice Chairman Hwang In-chong and (Pan Chin Ran), deputy secretary general of the Vietnamese Chamber of Commerce and Industry, says that a bilateral economic cooperation organization will be established to resolve issues concerning joint-venture companies, technological transfer, and joint investment, and that in connection with this, the Vietnamese Chamber of Commerce and Industry will invite an ROK economic mission to Vietnam in 1991, and IPCEK and the Vietnamese Chamber of Commerce and Industry will establish systematic cooperative relations, exchange business information and experts, and conduct joint investment feasibility studies. Accordingly, it is expected that economic cooperation between the ROK and Vietnam will be promoted in earnest from the first half of next year.

Financial Sector Threatened by Uruguay Round

SK2709011990 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 27 Sep 90 p 7

[Text] The Uruguay Round could pry open the South Korean financial market to foreigners and threaten all monetary sectors, except for the stock market, according to a report issued by a leading security research institute yesterday.

Once the Korea Stock Exchange is opened, it will become highly sensitive to moves by foreign investors as well as the smallest changes in the international market and is likely to experience unpredictable and wild variations in prices, the report by Daewoo Research Institute said. But it also stands to grow from increased demand, leading to a gradual adjustment of interest rates closer to the international level and diversification of investment opportunities for Koreans, who can reciprocally invest in other countries.

The report, analyzing the possible effects of the Uruguay Round on the Korean stock market, said all financial institutes stand to lose if the multilateral negotiations adopt demands by advanced nations. The round, whose major negotiation issues include opening of the developing countries' financial markets, is to decide how much the industry is to be liberalized for foreign investors, by what method and the transfer of market services across international borders.

Advanced countries are demanding a negative list system, with liberalization in all sectors except those on the list. Their demands also include an unrestricted right to establish financial institutes in a foreign country and to transfer services across borders as well as most-favored nation treatment of all member states. These conditions threaten to boost investment supply way over demand, and the domestic market is not yet strong enough to compete against foreign countries, which have superior resources and techniques, the report said.

Stock prices will suffer heavier swings because of the link to the international market, and unless the financial industry is developed to the level of advanced nations, entry of foreign investors is likely to overpower the Korean market, the report said. Frequent changes in interest and foreign exchange rates will have a greater influence on company standings, which in turn will bring further swings in the bourse. Foreign companies will also gain control over locally incorporated firms listed on the Korean Stock Market, the report predicted.

But new investment will raise the demand for local stocks, and domestic interest rates will be lowered to international standards in the process. South Korean investors may learn more systematic methods of investment from their foreign competitors while cutting their risks by spreading their money in a wider range of markets by advancing overseas, the report said.

Minister Calls for Review of IMF Quotas

SK2709051990 Seoul YONHAP in English 0505 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] Washington, Sept. 26 (YONHAP)—South Korean Finance Minister Chong Yong-ui called on the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank to ensure a smooth flow of funds by stabilizing exchange rates and interest rates on Wednesday.

In a speech to the 45th IMF-World Bank annual meeting, Chong said: "To do so, they must strive to prevent excessive fluctuations of the exchange rates of major currencies as well as instabilities in the world financial markets, which have intensified uncertainties in the world economy and hindered the management of economic policies by developing countries."

Warning that the Gulf crisis may slow economic growth and raise inflationary pressures among developing economies and increase the debt of oil-importing developing countries, he urged the Bank and IMF to "commence a comprehensive review of the current strategies for dealing with the debt problem."

He also called for the Bank and the Fund to actively support the economic reforms in Eastern Europe together with the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) to ensure the transition to a market economy is "smooth and successful, but not at the expense of other developing countries."

Chong said the World Bank should do more to expedite the flow of resources and technologies to developing nations in order to promote development in the private sector, establish stable economic systems and raise the level of efficiency in the utilization of resources.

"In particular, assistance from the Bank ought to be directed toward revision of legal and institutional structures, enhancing the activities of the private sector and raising the managerial capabilities of entrepreneurs," he said.

Defining IMF's primary goal as balanced and sustained economic growth, he said the surveillance role ought to be intensified and greater emphasis put on efficiency.

He said, "The Fund's symmetrical surveillance of trade-surplus and trade-deficit nations must be especially strengthened, in addition to its surveillance of trade-deficit nations that do not rely on resources from the fund. Policy research with respect to the effectiveness of surveillance must be further reinforced."

Chong, calling it fortunate the IMF had concluded the review of quotas without delay, said: "We find it regrettable that Korea was not given a quota proportional to its relative position in the world economy.

"It is hoped the quota will be reconsidered in future rounds of quota review negotiations so as to achieve a balanced quota for all member countries. To this end, we hope that the next quota review will be held as soon as possible."

Meeting To Promote Trade With Hungary Opens

SK2709052590 Seoul YONHAP in English 0514 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] Seoul, Sept. 27 (YONHAP)—The second South Korea-Hungary Joint Committee opened a two-day session Thursday to discuss ways to accelerate bilateral cooperation, a spokesman for the Foreign Ministry said.

The Korean delegation is led by Yi Ki-chu, assistant foreign minister for economic affairs, and the Hungarian team by Zoltan Gombocz, undersecretary of international economic relations.

They will discuss ways to expand bilateral trade and promote cooperation in the fields of finance, investment, telecommunications and construction, the spokesman said.

Korea and Hungary set up diplomatic ties in February 1989, when they agreed to hold annual meetings of the joint committee by turn. The first conference was in Budapest in June 1989.

Electronic Exports to East Bloc Triple in 1990

SK2709013590 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 27 Sep 90 p 6

[Text] Exports of electronic goods to East European nations have been brisk this year, posting a three-fold increase over last year.

Samsung Electronics Co. predicts this year's exports to the region will reach $900 million, compared with the original target of $360 million. The figure reflects a whopping 13-fold upsurge over the $70 million recorded last year. Goldstar's exports amounted to $50 million in the first eight months. Its original target for the year was $95 million. In addition, it is seeking to export plant to manufacture electronic home appliances to the area.

Daewoo Electronics Co., whose exports to the region totaled $101 million last year, projects the year's exports an $205 million this year. The company's exports to East Europe as the end of August amounted to $170 million. Its exports of color television sets reached 196,000 this year.

Companies Sign Contracts at World Trade Fair

SK2709014190 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 27 Sep 90 p 6

[Text] Korean companies, which participated in an international trade fair held recently in Yugoslavia, made contracts totaling some $3 million. A total of 11 firms, including Goldstar, Daewoo Corp., Samsung Co., and Sunkyong Ltd., attended the exhibition held in Zagreb in northwestern Yugoslavia on Sept. 17-23.

Seoul, Oslo Agree to Economic Cooperation

SK2609001990 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 26 Sep 90 p 8

[Text] Korea and Norway have agreed to jointly explore markets of socialist countries and third nations in a bid to beef up their economic growth. The two countries also pledged to cooperate in the Uruguay Round multilateral trade negotiations. The agreements were reached in the 11th annual conference of the Korea-Norway Economic Cooperation Committee held at the Federation of Korean Industries yesterday.

Choe Kwan-sik, Korean side chairman of the bilateral committee, headed a 60-member Korean delegation to the conference. On the other side, Sven B. Ullring, Norwegian chairman, led a 31- member mission.

The Korean delegation called upon Norway to extend generalized system of preferences (GSP) favors to Korean products. They especially asked Oslo to increase imports of ships, electronics and passenger cars. They expressed the hope that more active cooperation between the two countries should be realized in the fields of special ships, maritime measurement equipment, telecommunications, fine chemicals and electric power station equipment.

In the meantime, the Norwegian side said that Korea should increase imports of construction materials, automotive parts and ship equipment from Oslo. They welcomed Korea's ongoing market liberalization and import diversification policies. They also said that Korea and Norway should make more intensive efforts to diversify trade items and explore new business opportunities.

The two sides shared the view that Korea and Norway should consolidate their cooperation in small and medium industries.

The 12th conference of the committee will be held in Oslo next year.

President No Awards Prize to IOC's Samaranch

SK2509115690 Seoul YONHAP in English 1113 GMT 25 Sep 90

[Text] Seoul, Sept. 25 (OANA-YONHAP)—Juan Antonio Samaranch, recipient of the first Seoul Peace Prize, turned the honor to the International Olympic Committee, saying "The Olympic movement is the true beneficiary of the award."

Accepting the award in a ceremony Tuesday attended by President No Tae-u and other dignitaries, Samaranch said the prize is "conferred not so much on me but on the president of IOC." "The Seoul Peace Prize is an encouragement to join forces for solidarity and unity," he said, adding "Olympic movement itself is worthy of honor." "In thanking you (President No), I express deepest gratitude to the people of Korea," Samaranch said, urging everyone to remember the spirit of the Olympic Games.

The prize committee had chosen the 70-year-old IOC president as the first winner for his leading role in drawing together global peace and sports. "We (the Seoul Peace Prize Committee) award Juan Antonio Samaranch for his distinguished contribution to world peace and harmony of mankind," the plaque, presented by committee head Kim Yong-sik, said.

Message of peace and harmony prevailed throughout the 30-minute ceremony as President No Tae-u reminded the people of the significance of the event two years ago, "the vow for peace and advancement made by the youths of the world hand in hand." "The people of Korea survived through war, national division and severe hardships throughout the past century, and we thus cherish peace more than any other nation," No said.

Kim, chairman of the prize committee, echoed similar sentiments, calling the award "the first step, but a giant stride in eternal peace and friendship."

The 300,000 U.S. dollar biennial prize was announced in September last year by President No. The prize committee, launched the following February, received nominations from 144 individuals and groups for candidates, an individual or group from sports-related field that has contributed to world peace.

Samaranch was named by more than half of the nominators who recognized his role bringing together the United States and the Soviet Union to the Seoul games, finally ending the boycott from 12 years ago.

The prize committee, announcing Samaranch the winner last month, also cited his achievements that included increasing IOC member nations from 143 to 167 during his term as president. A record number of 160 nations had participated in the Seoul games.

Samaranch, buoyed by the success, was reelected to IOC presidency for four more years until 1992. A native of Spain, he served in IOC for 14 years before he became its leader in 1980. He is to contribute the prize money to the Olympic museum being built in Lausanne.

Editorial on New Direction for Student Groups

SK2509123590 Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean 23 Sep 90 p 2

[Editorial: "Student Movement in a New Semester—A Radical Violent Manner Cannot Be Supported in the Country"]

[Text] How much commotion will flare up on campuses during the new semester? On 20 September, approximately 2,000 students belonging to the Seoul District Federation of General Student Councils [Sochongnyon] held a rally entitled, "A Ceremony of 400,000 University Students in Seoul District To Proclaim Struggle To Dismantle the Democratic Liberal Party [DLP] in the Second Semester" at Konguk University. After the rally they staged a violent demonstration using fire bombs. Approximately 20,000 university students participated in nationwide demonstrations, including Pusan and Kwangju. It is very likely the demonstrations may cause violence involving sticks and fire bombs on campuses during the new semester.

In conclusion, our people no longer want student movements to cause class cancellations or social instability. Students present various reasons for these movements, such as promoting reunification, realizing social justice, and frustrating the No Tae-u regime's attempt at prolonged power. Strictly speaking, however, students should not do this. Broad-mindedly and magnanimously, it can be said the "struggle to promote national reunification launched by students during 1988 and 1989" has contributed to pressing ahead with the North-South prime ministers' talks.

In the past, student movements acted as pioneers. But today workers, peasants, teachers, and women are performing their duties in each assigned field with their own strength. Proceeding from this stand, it is necessary for students to seriously consider whether they should oppose political and social contradictions, injustice, and other questions, or try to settle them rationally. In particular, to realize the nation's long-cherished desire for overcoming division, it is necessary for us to have a broad world vision. It is also necessary to firmly believe this vision can only be realized through liberal democracy. Constant clashes of socialism now sweeping the world have proved this.

Another thing we demand is that student movements in the future be nonviolent. It should be kept in mind that because of the violence of the student movements, they have been ignored and rejected on and off campus and reduced to a minority movement.

Through the incidents at Seoul Teachers College, Tongui University, and King Sejong University, we have seen that no matter how pure and just a demand may be, if it becomes violent, the people end up hating it. We hope the students will assume the right attitude, abandoning the vicious cycle of throwing stones at older generations who have lived in the vortex of history.

From this standpoint, the rally to form the National Students Council [Chonhakhyop] is enough to draw the people's attention. Even though there is doubt about the organization's independence, the fact that Chonhakhyop denounces current student movements for assuming anachronistic ideas, radical logic and violence, and the fact it proclaims nonviolence by giving up violent tools—fire bombs, Molotov cocktails, iron pipes, sticks, and stones—makes the people feel better.

Even amid political chaos, economic slumps, and ethical and disciplinary breakdown, our society is moving down a mature road of democracy and humanity. Thus, the level of student movements in the future should rise up to that of the matured society. We declare it urgent for those involved in student movements to listen to criticism and denunciations from moderate students and all other social strata.

Government To Absorb Foreign Oil Price Rise

SK2609122090 Seoul YONHAP in English 1202 GMT 26 Sep 90

[Text] Seoul, Sept. 26 (YONHAP)—The government will not raise domestic oil prices this year but release millions of dollars from the petroleum stabilization fund to absorb rises in import prices, Deputy Prime Minister Yi Sung-yun said Wednesday.

"Most cabinet members shared the view against oil price increases," Yi told reporters after an economic ministerial meeting chaired by President No Tae-u. "It was a pledge with the people to absorb price rises by releasing money from the petroleum stabilization fund and we must keep this year's inflation rate below 10 percent," said Yi who is also economic planning minister. Yi said the government will take a serious review of domestic oil price-setting system and an industrial restructuring, if imported crude price surges beyond 25 U.S. dollars a barrel.

The top economic planner foresaw that the Persian Gulf crisis will aggravate the international trade balance and his nation will suffer a trade deficit of about a 1.55 billion dollars for the year. He anticipated the Gulf crisis will impose an additional oil bill of 1 billion dollars, cut exports to Iraq and Kuwait by 200 million dollars, reduce exports elsewhere by 800 million dollars.

Liberalization of Shipping Industry Due in 1992

SK2709015190 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 27 Sep 90 p 3

[Text] The government will fully liberalize the shipping business in late 1992 to help Korean shipping companies boost their international competitiveness, it was announced yesterday. The Korea Maritime and Port Administration (KMPA) said there will be less restrictions on the lease of foreign ships and sales of ships built under the government-supported shipbuilding program.

Announcing a package of steps to decontrol the deepsea shipping industry, KMPA said any qualified firms will be authorized to transport LNG (liquefied natural gas) starting next month. Starting late next year, the KMPA will permit shipping lines which operate on the Southeast Asian and Japan routes to extend their services to North America, Europe and other areas. The announcement said the Korea-Southeast Asian route and Korea-Japan route will be unified into one business area next year.

The shipping business will be fully decontrolled toward the end of 1992, KMPA said. "This will help domestic companies boost their international competitiveness," one official said. He acknowledged that foreign pressure, notably the Uruguay Round negotiations, has compelled the government to take steps to liberalize the shipping industry.

Effective next month, restrictions will be lifted on sales of ships built under the government-support shipbuilding program. Until now, sales of such ships had been banned up to five years. KMPA will repeal the prior approval system on the introduction of ships. Also beginning next month, it said, shipping lines will be free to lease ships mostly from overseas, if the lease lasts less than three years. They will only be required to report to KMPA after leasing the ships.

Papers for leasing ships, which had been required to receive approval from KMPA will be no longer needed. Lease of ships lasting over six months has to date required consent from the agency. KMPA plans to have relevant laws and regulations revised to back up its plans.

The shipping industry in Korea has been strictly restricted for years because of a worldwide shipping recession. A number of shipping companies have gone bankrupt or been taken over by other companies under the so-called "Shipping Industry Rationalization Program."

Business sources said excessive competition among shipping companies may hurt the domestic shipping industry. However, they would not predict how many new companies will jump into the shipping business which already shows signs of downturn.

Samsung To Sell Cable Television to Soviets

SK2709060590 Seoul YONHAP in English 0558 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] Seoul, Sept. 27 (YONHAP)—Samsung Co., trading arm of the Samsung Business Group, is to sell a cable television system to the Soviet Union, a business source said Thursday.

Samsung agreed to sell the state-run trade center Sovin a 1.5 million-U.S.-dollar cable TV system, and negotiations on a formal contract for the system are under way, he said.

The company is expected to put the system in 1,170 rooms at the center, he said.

* Slowdown in Export Industries Reported

902C0281 Seoul HANGUK KYONGJE SINMUN in Korean14,15 Jul 90

[Article by reporter Kim Ki-ung: "The KIET Analyzes the Present State and Future Prospects of the Automobile and Home Appliance Export Markets and Recommends Countermeasures"]

[14 Jul 90 p 3]

[Text] Editor's note: The slowdown in exports continues in July with no sign of abating. This is the result of the plummeting competitiveness of our leading and strategic export items, such as home appliances and automobiles; and for this reason, the medium- and long-term prospects of our export industries are darkened all the more. In this connection, the Korean Institute of Industrial Economics and Technology [KIET] released a report on 13 July analyzing the current state and the future prospects of the industrial competitiveness of our home appliance and auto industries and suggesting countermeasures. We will present a summary of this report in a two-part series, one on home appliances and the other on automobiles. [end editor's note]

Home Appliances—Realities and Prospects

Place in National Economy

The weight of the domestic home appliance industry in the manufacturing sector has increased rapidly since the 1970's.

Home appliances accounted for only 1.6 percent of the total output in 1975 but the share increased to 5 percent in 1988. In addition, their percentage to the total exports increased from 3.9 percent to 10.4 percent. As a result, Korea emerged in 1988 as the world's number two home appliance producing and exporting country after Japan.

However, this fast tempo of growth began to slow down with 1989 as a peak. Home appliances accounted for 9.3 percent of the total exports in 1989, or a 1.1 percent drop from the 1988 level. The downward trend continued into this year, with the percentage dropping to 8.6 percent as of the end of April.

Structural Characteristics

Our home appliance industry's internationalization of production is still in its infantile stage. The proportion of off-shore production remains at 19.4 percent in television sets and 10.1 percent in VTRs. In the case of Japan, the percentage is by far higher, with 66.7 percent in television sets and 13.9 percent in VTRs.

Our home appliance sector falls far behind Japan in the volume of sales. Samsung, Lucky-Goldstar, and Daewoo Electronics have recorded a sales volume of $3.4, $3.3, and $1.4 billion respectively, whereas Matsushita, Sony, and Toshiba registered $14.2, $9.8, and $5.9 billion in sales respectively.

In other words, the annual sales volume of Samsung, our largest home electric appliance producer, is on a par with that of Sanyo, Japan's eighth ranking company.

The rate of subcontract specialization in the industrial structure is only 27.5 percent as compared with Japan's 46 percent.

The export surplus of home appliances had continued to climb until 1989, when it shrank for the first time by $500 million from the preceding year.

By regions, Japan, the European Community (EC), and the communist bloc are getting an increasingly large market share for their home appliance exports. On the contrary, the market share for U.S. home appliance exports is shrinking. The U.S. and the EC shares of the import market are increasing while that of Japan is decreasing.

By items, the export-market shares of Korean-made VTRs, electric ranges, washing machines, and air-conditioners had steadily increased from 1985 through 1989, whereas those of color TVs, audio equipment, and refrigerators decreased. In particular, the production and export of refrigerators were hit hard by the intentional delay in the delivery of key parts from Japan, their major supplier. Exports are still heavily reliant on the original equipment manufacturing (OEM) form. This tendency is increasing in upgrade products.

On the whole, exports lean heavily on low-grade products. The demand pattern for goods in advanced countries is rapidly tending toward medium-grade and A goods, but our industries are hardly catching up with this trend.

The percentage of upgrade models to total Korean-made VTRs being sold in the United States is a puny 0.5 percent and that of television sets is 5 percent. On the contrary, in the case of Japanese products, upgrade models account for 74 percent of Japanese VTRs and 38 percent of color television sets sold in the United States.

The profit picture of our export commodities is also deteriorating. In 1987, the average ordinary profit on exported color television sets was 5.4 percent, but that of last year dropped to 0.3 percent.

The rate of profit from our U.S. exports is far worse. The red ink in color TV exports increased from 3.2 percent in 1987 to 16.3 percent in 1989.

The red ink in refrigerator exports increased from 0.6 percent to 5.9 percent in the same period.

International Competitiveness

The percentage of Korean-made home appliances to the world's total home appliance output had rapidly increased from 1985 through 1988. In terms of production quantity, the percentage increased from 7.8 percent to 18.4 percent in color TVs, from 4 percent to 18.6 percent in VTRs, and from 0 percent to 8.2 percent in CDPs. But in 1989, it is surmised that the overall percentage of Korean-made products to the world's total output of these products decreased due to the slack in exports.

The export price gap between Korean and Japanese products is gradually narrowing. Price increases unaccompanied by improved quality are bound to place Korea in a disadvantageous position in competition with Japan and Taiwan.

In the U.S. market for television sets (19 inch, remote control models), a Korean set sold for $249 in 1987, or 11 percent cheaper than a comparable Toshiba model, which sold for $279. But the price gap narrowed to 8 percent in 1989.

There are various reasons behind the sagging competitiveness of our products.

Among reasons associated with the changing international situation surrounding our country are: the appreciation of the value of the won against the currencies of Japan, Taiwan, and other competitors since 1988; the increased competitiveness of goods produced by Japanese overseas firms in Southeast Asia; and the drastic strengthening of the home appliance sector of the European electronic industries.

The following domestic factors are also pointed out as problem areas: the higher labor cost at home; the increasing rates of faulty products and claims as a result of labor disputes; the diminishing desire of firms to export; and the diminishing relative importance of the home appliance industries in the economy.

In 1989, the percentage of faulty products to the total home appliances manufactured was between 7 and 8 percent, or more than the 3 percent rate in Japan.

Among the structural reasons for the weakening competitiveness are: the poor research and development record of our companies; the small scale of parts manufacturing firms; and the excessive dependence on Japan for key parts.

The percentage of investment in research and development (R&D) by our firms to the total sales volume was 1.4 percent in 1988 and 3 percent in 1989. This compares with 6.1 percent and 6.2 percent respectively in Japan.

The percentage of technical personnel to the total number of employees is 7.4 percent in Korea, whereas the comparable rate in Japan is overwhelmingly high at 15.7 percent.

Korea's home appliance exports will remain in the doldrums without improvements in domestic conditions and without proper countermeasures.

An expansion of the market in East Europe and the special demand for sporting and other goods are not expected to be of any help in increasing the exports. This makes it imperative for the firms to make efforts to improve their competitiveness and for the government to play a role to back up these efforts.

Countermeasures

By and large, these measures are urgently needed: Securing technological competitiveness, establishing effective operational and managerial strategies, and implementing short-term government measures to perk up this sector.

To secure technological competitiveness, companies need to make active efforts to develop essential technologies on their own and do away with their past product development strategies based on borrowed technologies. What also needs to be done is to secure key technical personnel, who are in extremely short supply. This makes it imperative to readjust the ceilings on the number of students admitted to related departments in universities to suit the sector-by-sector personnel supply and demand plans; make the best use of overseas scientific and technological personnel; and establish government-financed research institutes.

Companies should effectively organize R&D projects and strengthen the system of cooperation and support for the technological improvement of small- and medium-scale home appliance parts producers. The government should take the initiative to establish a new product quality certification organization measuring up to the world's standards, while promoting measures designed to raise the quality of products to the international level.

On the level of managerial strategy, firms should first perceive the current situation, not merely as an economic recession, but as a structural crisis. Accordingly, it is necessary to make all the more active efforts to upgrade the product structure and increase the marketing ability closely attuned to the overseas markets.

As a strategy for internationalizing business operations, it is necessary for enterprises operating overseas to establish a system of mutual assistance and work out their own regional production and sales bases.

On the other hand, the government should work out short-term economic stimulation measures, such as the lowering of interest rates to lighten the financial burdens of companies, and measures to compensate for the decreased productivity of exportable goods.

[15 Jul 90 p 3]

[Text] **Automobiles—Problems and Prospects**

Place in National Economy

The auto industry has made great strides in the past 10 years. The car output reached the 1.128 million level last year, compared to less than 37,000 in 1975, thus showing an average annual increase of 27.6 percent.

The domestic demand for automobiles increased from 36,000 in 1975 to 762,000 in 1989, showing an average annual increase of 24.4 percent.

Automobile exports increased from 1,000 in 1975 to 575,000 in 1988, or 570 times in 14 years.

However, the volume of auto exports in 1989 was only 355,000, or a 38.2 percent drop from the preceding year. As of April this year, the volume of auto exports shrank by 42.7 percent compared with the corresponding period in 1989. Thus our auto industry is suffering from a kind of malady which indicates that the industry is at a cross-roads.

Structural Characteristics

Our auto industry falls far behind Japan in its production structure. Each manufacturer of a specific model has 242 parts manufacturers working for it, and this number is only a quarter of the corresponding figure in Japan.

The production scale of finished auto manufacturers also trails far behind. The annual car output of Hyundai, the largest Korean auto maker, was 647,000 in 1988, whereas the auto output of Mazda, Japan's fifth ranking auto maker after Toyota, Nissan, Honda, and Mitsubishi, was 1.2 million in the same year. Hyundai ranks 18th in the world in annual car output.

The subcontract system for the Korean auto manufacturers is incomplete. The subcontracts for our auto industry are limited to the secondary level on the whole, and the number of secondary subcontractors for the primary contractors is too small. In Japan, the tertiary subcontract is common.

Characteristically, the export structure is built around small cars. Up to 1989, automobiles of 2,000 cc or less accounted for 98 percent of our car exports, and the percentage dropped to 83 percent in 1989 as a result of the export of Sonatas.

There is an acute regional bias in auto exports and imports. The U.S. market accounted for 85.1 percent of Korea's total finished car exports in 1988, and the percentage decreased to 67.2 percent in 1989. On the other hand, Japan accounted for 82.6 percent and 74.6 percent, respectively, of Korea's auto parts imports.

The average export price of Korean-made cars was $5,897 in 1989. This compares with the average export price of $8,793 for Japanese cars in 1988. The percentage of large cars to the total Japanese auto exports is increasing, whereas our auto manufacturers are still giving weight to cheap small cars as main export models.

International Competitiveness

The price competitiveness of our auto industry is visibly weakening. The export price of Huyndai's Excel model in the U.S. market ranged from $5,295 to $7,445 in 1988. But the price has soared to the range between $5,899 and $8,479. As a result, Excel's 13 to 15 percent price advantage over the comparable Japanese models diminished to 11 to 13 percent.

The price advantage of Sonata over Toyota's Camry and Mitsubishi's Gallant has dropped by between 2.6 and 3.3 percent this year.

Korean cars fall behind Japanese cars in quality competition in terms of safety standards and trouble indexes. In particular, compared with Toyota's Tercel, Honda's Civic, and Nissan's Sentra, the frequency of trouble for Korean Excel, Pride, and Le Mans is known to be strikingly high. For this reason, the prices of Korean used cars are sharply below those of Japanese used cars. With the average price of used Honda's Civics in the U.S. market as 100, used Excels have a price index of only 58.8.

As of 1988, labor productivity (based on the added value produced per worker) was only one-fourth of that in Japan. The number of per worker annual auto output was 46.3 for Japan's Toyota, compared with 19.3 cars for Hyundai Motor, or 42 percent of Toyota's figure. This disparity is attributed to the by far higher automation rate of Japanese automobile manufacture and by far higher level of skills of Japanese automobile workers. As of 1987, the Korean auto makers had 550 robots whereas Japan had 50,950 robots.

Overall, the technological standard of the Korean automobile industry is approaching that of its Japanese counterpart in terms of "production technology." However, Korea is too far behind Japan in terms of "product technology," such as the ability to design key functional parts, such as transmission systems. The amount of R&D investments by our auto industry was only $232 million in 1988, compared to Japan's $4,757 million.

Prospects of International Competitiveness

There is a mixture of pessimism and optimism. The pessimistic view is based on the fact that the climate of the world market is operating to the advantage of multinational corporations of advanced countries which have a strong technological edge, to wit, the integration of the EC market, the decrease in the demand for small cars in the U.S. market, and the moves in all countries to toughen controls to promote fuel efficiency and curb emissions.

In addition, the weakening price competitiveness of Korean made cars, the technological backwardness of the Korean auto parts industries, and the trend in advanced countries to protect their technological advantages are also clouding the prospects for our auto industry.

On the other hand, the optimism is based on these factors: the higher quality competitiveness of Korean cars compared with models produced in developing countries, and the greater possibility of exploring new markets in Europe and Southeast Asia.

In addition, it is worth noting that the supply base is being consolidated as a result of increasing domestic demand and that the marketing ability of our auto manufacturers is improving.

Viewed on the basis of this analysis, Korean cars' share of the U.S. market, which was 3.2 percent last year, is expected to increase by somewhere between a minimum of 3 percent and a maximum of 4 percent in 1995, and by somewhere between a minimum of 3 percent and a maximum of 6.3 percent in the year 2000.

Countermeasures

Above all, improvement of the technological level is urgently needed. Our auto industry should nurture its own technological development capability in order to cope with technological protectionism in the advanced countries. To this end, the rate of technological investment to the total sales volume should be increased to a 5 percent level by 1995 from the meager 2.65 percent in 1988.

In addition, the auto industry should strive to improve efficiency in the introduction of technologies by eliminating a duplicate and expensive introduction of technologies, while stepping up cooperation with related industries, such as the materials and electronics industries, in developing new technologies.

Efforts to reduce production costs are also necessary. The "on-time supply system" should be expanded, and all employees should be induced to participate in their companies' drive to reduce production costs on a voluntary basis.

The nurturing of parts industries is more urgent than ever before. To this end, the current system of affiliation should be improved by expanding the networks of secondary and tertiary subcontractors.

The parent companies should provide more funds to parts manufacturers for technological improvements and assist them in the automation of production.

The overseas marketing capability should be upgraded. The overseas image of Korean cars should be improved through stepped up publicity campaigns with the overseas press and consumer pollsters. At the same time, export markets should be diversified.

The focus of marketing activity should be on small cars which have relatively low competitiveness. Measures are also need to replace the old Excel model by a new one in order to restore its tarnished image.

For the purpose of expanding the volume of sales, our auto makers should sign sales cooperation contracts with overseas dealers to utilize their distribution networks. It is also desirable to promote overseas production step by step through on-the-spot investment.

Domestically, anyone desiring to enter the finished car manufacturing sector for the first time should be cautious until the middle of the 1990's. This is because it is feared that to permit such new entry in the wake of the exclusion of finished car production from the list of industries requiring rationalization would tend to lower the international competitiveness of our auto industry due to its inadequate scale as an economic unit. If the number of new auto makers should increase without an accompanying consolidation of the foundations of the parts industry, the existing imbalance would be further aggravated.

Burma

EC Protests Detention of Embassy Workers

BK2709110190 Hong Kong AFP in English 1034 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] Bangkok, Sept 27 (AFP)—The European Community (EC), Japan, the United States and four other Western countries have delivered a strong protest to Burma's military government after the arrest and questioning of Burmese staff of foreign embassies, a senior Rangoon-based diplomat said here Thursday.

The formal protest, delivered Friday [as received] in Rangoon by Italian Ambassador Giorgio Bosco, also covered recent arrests by the military of pro-democracy politicians, incursions by armed soldiers into embassy compounds and the government's moves away from democracy, he said.

The diplomat, who asked not to be named, said three Burmese women employed as information officers in the U.S., British, and Australian embassies had recently been detained and questioned by the junta's military intelligence.

"Arrests and harassment of locally-engaged staff of a number of missions" had taken place at a time when officials of the National League for Democracy (NLD), including NLD leader Kyi Maung, and other parties opposed to military rule were being arrested, he said.

A Burmese woman working at the British Embassy was detained for four days in Inseen, one of Rangoon's major jails where many political dissidents are believed to be held, prompting the Foreign Office to call in the Burmese ambassador in London to be given a strong protest. One Burmese woman from the U.S. Embassy and one from the Australian Embassy were detained and questioned for two days, he said. The diplomat said the "oral demarche" was made by Mr. Bosco acting on behalf of the EC's 12 member states but "the U.S., Australian, Swedish, New Zealand, Canadian, and, most important of all, Japanese Governments associated themselves formally with it." "In fact, it was an 18-nation demarche which took place on Friday," he added.

Burma's generals seized power in September 1988 to crush a nationwide pro-democarcy movement, killing thousands of demonstrators and carrying out massive arrests of students and other protest leaders.

The military allowed general elections in May which were won by the NLD despite the continued detention of Aung San Suu Kyi, the charismatic daughter of the country's independence hero, General Aung San, and other party leaders. The junta has so far refused to transfer power to the NLD.

The diplomat said Friday's protest meant that the governments involved, including those with aid programs in Burma such as Japan, "do not accept them (the military) as a legitimate government." It was also a signal to the Burmese people "that we care for them and will continue to help them in their efforts to bring about a smooth, one hopes bloodless transfer of power to a democratically elected government," he said.

Monks 'Excommunicating' Armed Forces Members

BK2709115390 Hong Kong AFP in English 1120 GMT 27 Sep 90

[By Charles-Antoine de Nerciat]

[Text] Bangkok, Sept 27 (AFP)—Buddhist monks are excommunicating members of Burma's Armed Forces in a show of protest that may have far-reaching consequences in the military-ruled and mainly Buddhist nation, a senior Rangoon-based diplomat said here Thursday. He said the movement was started by senior abbots in the central city of Mandalay, home to up to 80,000 monks, but had spread to Sagaing, to the north, and Rangoon to the south.

"This is having a very major impact on the rank-and-file of the military, on the simple soldier," said the diplomat, who asked not to be named.

Burma's generals seized power in a bloody coup two years ago to crush a nationwide pro-democracy movement that swept the country of about 41 million people, of whom 85 per cent are Buddhist.

The junta held promised elections in May which were won by the main pro-democracy party, the National League for Democracy (NLD) despite its leaders, including Aung San Suu Kyi, the charismatic daughter of independence hero General Aung San, being detained since the middle of last year. The military have so far refused to hand over power and arrested several more NLD and pro-democracy leaders.

The diplomat accused the junta of "jackboot justice," charging that it was involved in a campaign of "systematic intimidation" of the people that had intensified over the past two months. He said there had been recent reports of almost daily anti-junta demonstations in Mandalay, where students, their parents and headmasters had been detained or held for questioning. "The schools are one very clear focus of political activity in Mandalay. The other major focus is the monks," he said.

Several senior abbots in Mandalay have signed a letter saying "they are turning down their (begging) bowls—that is, not accepting alms from military families," the diplomat said. This was in effect excommunication, denying soldiers and their families the possibility of earning merit in keeping with Buddhist practice. Monks were also refusing to attend such crucial, major ceremonies as funerals or weddings for military families, he explained. He added that the excommunication movement was supported by most monks in Mandalay where the Buddhist clergy has a long history of political activism and had spread to Sagaing and at least two monasteries in Rangoon.

Several Mandalay monks had reportedly been arrested for publicly kneeling in front of soldiers, "a very major insult because it suggests that the military is regarding itself as the Buddha," the envoy said.

Official Radio Rangoon, in a broadcast monitored here Wednesday, reported that top Burmese government officials had recently travelled to the central cities of Mandalay, Pagan, Sagaing and Magwe where they had warned monks and students against creating disturbances. "We have noticed that some monks and students have caused disturbances and created instability in Mandalay in recent days," Major General Tin U was quoted as saying during the group's visit to that city. "Venerable abbots and monks should only practice their religion and work for religious affairs in accordance with the Vinaya (Buddhist) code of ethics for monks," he said.

The diplomat said that some officers in Burma's 200,000-strong Armed Forces "are becoming deeply disquieted by the way things are going." They were "more particularly disturbed by the way the religious bodies of the country, particularly the monks, have started to show that they are prepared to enter the political arena."

The envoy said "some people in the fairly high levels of the administration" would like to see a dialogue between the military and the NLD. But this, he continued, was opposed by hardliners such as the powerful head of military intelligence Khin Nyunt and probably former strongman General Ne Win, who have no wish to hand over power. Gen. Ne Win formally retired from politics during 1988's pro-democracy unrest but diplomats believe he still wields formidable influence within the junta.

Radio Reports Three Arrested for Publications

BK2609150790 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 26 Sep 90

[Text] Three persons have been arrested by authorties for organizing youths and students to create instability in Yangon [Rangoon] city and in connection with the preparation, planning, and publishing of an antigovernment propaganda publication, entitled What's Happening, aimed at making the people misunderstand the government and the Defense Services. Sein Hlaing, 35, son of U Ba Kyi of No. 39, Kyaiklat Street, Sanchaung Township, Yangon, was apprehended on 9 September 1990. Myo Myint Nyein, 38, son of U Kyarr Ba Nyein of Room No. 7, Row No. 4, Pyidawthit Yeiktha, Pazundaung Township, Yangon, was arrested on 12 September 1990; and Nyan Paw, alias Min Lwin, 36, son of [words indistinct], Zagwe Taung ward, Thingangyun Township, Yangon, were taken in on 13 September 1990.

According to their testimonies, Nyan Paw was requested by Myo Myint Nyein to write poems that criticize, slander, and ridicule the leaders of the Defense Services and that make the people mistrust the Defense Services. The poems written by Nyan Paw were published in three volumes under the title What's Happening.

In order to publish and distribute the poems in time for the anniversaries, Myo Myint Nyein gave them to Sein Hlaing, head of the illegal Thon-Yaung-Che [Tricolor] organization, which had been agitating disturbances. Sein Hlaing printed and distributed the poems.

Legal action will be taken by the authorities concerned against the three for illegally authoring and distributing antigovernment publications.

UN, Thai Drug Control Groups Continue Visit

Meet Phone Myint

BK2509161690 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 25 Sep 90

[Text] A delegation led by Dr. J.B. Janeiro, executive director of the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control, and another delegation led by Police Lieutenant General Chawalit Yotmani, secretary of the Office of the Narcotics Control Board of Thailand, called on Lieutenant General Phone Myint, minister for home and religious affairs and for information and culture, and chairman of the Central Narcotic Drugs Prevention and Control Committee, at the minister's office, this morning at 0900.

Also present on the occasion were Thai ambassador to Myanmar [Burma], Mr. Suraphong Posayanon; Lieutenant Colonel Than Nyunt from the Ministry of Home and Religious Affairs; Acting Police Director General Police Brigadier General San Thein, chairman of the Committee for Prevention and Suppression of Narcotic Drugs; and Police Colonel Ngwe Soe Tun, joint secretary of that committee.

Thai Group Meets Khin Nyunt

BK2509155290 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 25 Sep 90

[Text] A Thai delegation led by Police Lieutenant General Chawalit Yotmani, secretary of the Office of the Narcotics Control Board of Thailand, called on Major General Khin Nyunt, secretary-1 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council, at the Dagon Hall of the Defense Ministry this morning at 1000.

Also present at the occasion together with the visiting delegation was Mr. Suraphong Posayanon, Thai ambassador to Myanmar [Burma]. Major General Khin Nyunt was accompanied at the meeting by U Ohn Gyaw, director general of the Foreign Ministry's Political Department; Deputy Director General of Police, Police Brigadier General San Thein; Colonel Than Tun, deputy director of the Defense Services Intelligence; and Colonel Thura Aung Htet, director general of the Foreign Ministry's Protocol Department.

Officials Discuss Cooperation

BK2609153590 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 26 Sep 90

[Text] A Thai delegation led by Police Lieutenant General Chaowalit Yotmani, secretary of the Office of the Narcotics Control Board of Thailand, and a Burmese group headed by U Ohn Gyaw, director general of the Foreign Ministry's Political Department of the Union of Myanmar [Burma] Government, discussed measures on bilateral cooperation in drug suppression efforts. The meetings were held at the Shwewa Room of the Karaweik hall on 25 and 26 September.

It was learned that the meeting held in the afternoon 26 September was also attended by Dr. J. B. Janeiro, executive director of the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control, and his party.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Abu Hassan Urges UN Action Against Israel

BK2609104390 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0742 GMT 26 Sep 90

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Sept 26 (OANA-BERNAMA)—Malaysia has urged the United Nations' Security Council to apply against Israel the same measures it has instituted against Iraq to get Israel to withdraw from its occupied territories. Foreign Minister Abu Hassan Omar said the Security Council should not practise double standards. Israel must be made to withdraw from the occupied territories in the same manner that we now apply all sorts of measures to make Iraq withdraw from Kuwait, he said at a meeting of the council Tuesday.

The Security Council imposed trade sanctions against Iraq following its occupation of Kuwait on August 2.

Abu Hassan said the record of the council with regard to Palestine and the Israeli occupation of Palestine was dismal, with various vetoes applied to paralyse the council's efforts and curtail the secretary-general's initiatives on these issues. It is as if Israel has protectors in the council and different standards are applied with regard to Israel. This does not speak well of the council and those that wrongly protect Israel, he said. He added Israeli actions, well documented, were recognised by the international community as being nothing short of aggression.

He stressed that the council should not wait for a solution to the Gulf crisis before paying full attention to the actions of Israel in the occupied territories. If Israel continues to be obdurate and unresponsive, the council must not hesitate to apply all the pressure and sanctions to ensure compliance, he said.

On the Gulf crisis, he said Iraq should respond positively to the council's resolutions, particularly Resolution 660 which calls for Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwait. This will lead to the removal of the foreign military presence in the Gulf and avoid the outbreak of war.

Abu Hassan also said that as a principle, Malaysia was averse to the involvement of the armed forces of major powers in any region.

He said Malaysia understood well the miseries of Kuwait and the anxieties of Saudi Arabia and the Gulf states and that the forces of these countries were there upon the request of Kuwait under Article 51.

However, as a non-aligned member and coming from a region which has been casualty to the battles and wars fought by armies of major powers, we fear the consequences of a long-term presence of military forces of major forces, he explained.

Abu Hassan said Malaysia was also not satisfied with the efforts to help hundreds of thousands of foreigners, especially from Asia, who were stranded in Kuwait and Iraq. He said humanitarian cognisance must be accorded in such situations and the sanctions committee should move swiftly without political impediments thrown in its way.

On resolutions adopted by the United Nations to apply sanctions against Iraq, Abu Hassan said Malaysia had been equally painstaking in examining those resolutions. To apply sanctions on air traffic and transportation was risky and complicated, he said, adding that it was for these reasons that Malaysia had insisted that the resolution refers to the Chicago Convention. We realise that the thrust and objective of this resolution as in previous cases is to make sanctions effective and ensure compliance and this is the sole and only reason why Malaysia feels duty-bound to support the resolution, he said.

Singapore

Joint Economic Commission With USSR Reported

BK2409153290 Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 24 Sep 90 p 2

[Text] The inaugural session of the Singapore-Soviet joint economic commission in Moscow has agreed on co-operation in trade, science and technology, and investments, the Singapore Broadcasting Corporation [SBC] reported last night. It said the meeting also identified other areas of cooperation to boost ties between the two countries.

For a start, a seminar on doing business in Moscow would be held next year for Singapore businessmen. The session agreed that the successful liberalisation of the Soviet economy would enhance the growth of bilateral trade.

In an interview with SBC in Moscow, Minister of State (Trade and Industry, and Communications and Information) Mah Bow Tan said:

"Both sides agreed that we should encourage our chambers of commerce to get in touch with one another to have some kind of formal link so that there can be further exchange of information to enhance trade between the Soviet Union and Singapore."

He said both countries had agreed to set up a committee on science and technology under the Joint Economic Commission. "And the role of this committee really is to bring businessmen from Singapore in touch with the research institutes, in touch with the scientists in the Soviet Union." He added that the proposed committee would link the strength of Soviet science and technology, research and development, with the abilities of Singapore businessmen in marketing, and manufacturing.

He said both countries had discussions on formalising an investment guarantee agreement (IGA). "We were not able to reach full agreement on the IGA but there was progress made in this area. So, hopefully, we should be able to formalise an agreement sometime in the new year," he told SBC.

Cambodia

Sihanouk Blames Allies for Rejecting Hun Sen

BK2609152090 Hong Kong AFP in English 1448 GMT 26 Sep 90

[Text] Bangkok, Sept 26 (AFP)—Prince Norodom Sihanouk has said his resistance allies were responsible for barring Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen from becoming deputy head in the interim authority of the country. In a statement from Beijing, issued by his office here Wednesday, the former Cambodian monarch said his resistance coalition partners, the Khmer Rouge and former Premier Son Sann, had rejected Mr. Hun Sen as the number two.

Phnom Penh has demanded that Mr. Hun Sen, 39, be appointed vice-chairman of the newly formed Supreme National Council (SNC) if the prince is to be named chairman. The SNC is to take over Cambodia's seat in the United Nations. Squabbling between the warring factions over the composition of the SNC led to a collapse of the first meeting of the body last week in the Thai capital.

In Phnom Penh, Mr. Hun Sen, an SNC member, said Wednesday that three formulas were acceptable: the prince as president with him as vice-president, two co-chairmen, or a single chairman rotated on a [passage indistinct] refuses that Mr. Hun Sen becomes vice-president of the SNC. The refusal comes from His Excellency Son Sann, His Excellency Khieu Samphan and other personalities of the National Cambodian Resistance (NCR)," Prince Sihanouk said in his statement.

Mr. Khieu Samphan is the titular leader of the Khmer Rouge, Cambodia's former Marxist ruling group which now dominates the guerrilla coalition fighting Phnom Penh. The prince and Mr. Son Sann head smaller noncommunist factions.

Son Sann Interviewed After Bangkok Meeting

BK2509120890 (Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian 0430 GMT 25 Sep 90

[Interview with Son Sann, president of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front, in Bangkok on 20 September by station correspondent on the outcome of the first meeting of Cambodia's Supreme National Council—recorded]

[Summary From Poor Reception] [Son Sann] It is vitally important that we compromise for the sake of Cambodia's early peace so our compatriots can do away with their suffering. This is the most important thing. We should not talk about the number 12 nor 13. If all of us think we should occupy the United Nations seat at the earliest date, we should compromise on electing a chairman. "No one but Samdech Norodom Sihanouk is suitable for the chairmanship of the Supreme National Council [SNC]."

What we care about is the suffering of our people inside the country. So we should put an end to the war. If we continue fighting, our people's misery will go on endlessly. "I ask all the compatriots to meet again. We should not concern ourselves with the number 12 or 13. We should strive to elect a chairman who will then appoint a delegation to the United Nations."

I implore all Cambodian parties to end the war and stop killing fellow Cambodians. I ask all compatriots along with me to pray to God to help "persuade the five major countries to help reconvene the SNC meeting as quickly as possible."

VODK Urges Following Jakarta, UN Documents

BK2609034490 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 25 Sep 90

["News commentary": "Only By Solving Vietnam's War of Aggression of Cambodia in Accordance with the Document of the UN Security Council's Five Permanent Members Can Peace Be Restored in Cambodia"]

[Text] Vietnam's war of aggression in Cambodia over the past more than 11 years has brought the greatest risk of destruction to our Cambodian nation and race. Our people in districts and provinces throughout the country have greatly suffered; their parents, children, husbands, and relatives have been massacred by the Vietnamese. Families that suffered no deaths have been separated. This is not to mention Vietnam's war of aggression, which has ruined Cambodia's economy and the culture and civilization of the Cambodian nation and people. Our people clearly realize that if Vietnam's war of aggression is allowed to continue for long, our entire nation and people will be subjected to greater suffering and destruction.

Now Cambodia's Supreme National Council [SNC] has been set up. Therefore, our people hope this SNC will use its agreement, which is within the framework of the document of the UN Security Council's five permanent members, and implement this agreement correctly without any changes or tricks to push quickly for a comprehensive political solution to the Cambodian problem. Only by solving the Cambodian problem politically based on the document of the Security Council's five permanent members can Cambodia have peace and independence and can the entire Cambodian people be definitively spared suffering and hardship caused by Vietnam's war of aggression.

VODK Cites SRV Troop Presence as Obstacle

BK2609065690 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 24 Sep 90

[Station commentary: "The Continued Presence of Vietnamese Aggressor Forces in Cambodia is an Obstacle Hindering the Achievement of the Concrete Implementation of the five documents of the Five Permanent Members of the UN Security Council"]

[Text] Chapter two of the documents of the five permanent members of the UN Security Council [UNSC] dealing with the military arrangement during the transitional period prescribes the presence of UN Peacekeeping Force to supervise the withdrawal of all categories of Vietnamese aggressor forces, including advisers, military personnel, and all weapons from Cambodia and to prevent these aggressor foreign forces and weapons from being sent back to Cambodia. This clearly shows that the majority of the international community, including the five UNSC permanent members, have accepted that many categories of the Vietnamese aggressor forces are still in Cambodia to launch activities against the Cambodian national resistance forces.

As a matter of fact, Vietnamese troops, separately and in combination with Heng Samrin units, are launching activities on the battlefields in Cambodia. Vietnam's aim is to reverse the battlefield situation to divert the attention focussed on the negotiating table from the basic essence of the five permanent members' documents to legalizing the Vietnamese aggression in Cambodia. This is why the Phnom Penh party has continued to set all kinds of conditions contrary to the Jakarta agreement and the five documents of the five UNSC permanent members.

This maneuver by the Vietnamese aggressors and Phnom Penh cannot fool national and international opinion. The Cambodian people and all peace- and justice-loving countries want the concrete implementation of the Jakarta agreement to achieve a complete agreement at the Paris International Conference on Cambodia. This is to allow the United Nations to send a UN Peacekeeping Force immediately to carry out this supervision role in Cambodia, thus making Vietnam withdraw all its aggressor troops from Cambodia and ensuring the complete implementation of all agreements.

Political Bureau Approves Heng Samrin Report

BK2709070490 Phnom Penh SPK in English 0515 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK, September 27—The Politburo of the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea Central Committee met yesterday to hear a report presented by General Secretary Heng Samrin on his September 20 talks with A. Lukyanov, president of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR.

The Political Bureau expressed satisfaction at the results of the talks and highly valued the stance of the communist party, the government and the people of the Soviet Union and their assistance and support to the just struggle of the Cambodian people. The Politburo highly appreciated the active contribution made by the Soviet party, government and people to a fair and equitable peaceful settlement of the Cambodian conflict in the interests of the Cambodian people and of peace, stability and cooperation in Southeast Asia.

The Politburo also praised the determination of the party, the government and the people of the Soviet Union to further consolidate the ties of solidarity, friendship and multiform cooperation between the parties, governments and peoples of the two countries, and make the bilateral multiform cooperation more effective in the concrete conditions of Cambodia and those of the two other Indochinese countries.

The Politburo once again expressed its profound gratitude to the Soviet Union for its support and assistance to the just cause of the Cambodian people in building an independent, peaceful, neutral and nonaligned Cambodia.

Chea Soth Receives New Soviet Ambassador 25 Sep

BK2709074790 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 2300 GMT 26 Sep 90

[Text] On the morning of 25 September, at the office of the Council of Ministers, Comrade Chea Soth, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and vice chairman of the State of Cambodia's Council of Ministers, received Comrade Yuriy Myakotnykh, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Soviet Union.

On this occasion, Comrade Chea Soth warmly welcomed the comrade Soviet ambassador and his mission to Cambodia. Comrade Chea Soth told his guest about the all-around development of the State of Cambodia in the past nearly 12 years, including the precious contribution of the Soviet party, government, and people. Comrade

Chea Soth stressed the stance and goodwill of the Cambodian party, government, and people, who always want genuine peace and security.

Replying, Comrade Yuriy Myakotnykh expressed profound thanks to Comrade Chea Soth for the briefing on the all-around development of the State of Cambodia. Comrade Yuriy Myakotnykh affirmed he will strive to carry out well his diplomatic mission aimed at expanding and strengthening the relations of solidarity, friendship, and cooperation between the two countries.

Hun Sen Allows Red Cross To Visit Prisoners

BK2709102290 Hong Kong AFP in English 0929 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] Phnom Penh, Sept 27 (AFP)—The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) has been given the go ahead to visit prisoners of war held by the Phnom Penh government, the ICRC president said Thursday. The concession came during a meeting Wednesday between ICRC President Cornelio Sommaruga and Prime Minister Hun Sen.

Mr. Hun Sen "agreed to let us proceed with visits of detained persons according to our conditions and modalities," Mr. Sommaruga told journalists, adding that the visits should start within a matter of weeks. He said the ICRC office here would within the next few days work with the Interior and Foreign Ministries to draw up a detailed plan of action.

Another ICRC official said the Swiss-based body had been trying for the past 11 years to gain access to prisoners detained by both sides in the civil war in Cambodia.

Figures for prisoners, including political prisoners, held by Phnom Penh and the three party resistance were not available.

Mr. Sommaruga, who arrived here Monday from Vietnam, also said the ICRC planned to inaugurate on October 2 a direct flight between Bangkok and Phnom Penh, which do not have diplomatic ties. It was hoped the flight could become a weekly one bringing medical supplies for use in the three provincial hospitals where ICRC teams work, he said.

The ICRC chief is on a "humanitarian mobilisation" mission to Vietnam, Cambodia and Thailand. He also met National Assembly President Chea Sim, new Foreign Minister Hor Nam Hong and officials from the Health and Justice Ministries and the Cambodian Red Cross for discussions on ICRC strategy and operations. He was leaving Cambodia Thursday.

Tie Banh Closes Infantry Training Course

BK2409135390 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1200 GMT 24 Sep 90

[Text] A solemn ceremony to close the 10th training course for junior army cadres was recently held at the infantry school of the Cambodian People's Armed Forces [CPAF] under the chairmanship of Comrade General Tie Banh, member of the Political Bureau of the party Central Committee, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, and defense minister.

Present at the gathering were Major General Meas Saophea, deputy chief of the CPAF General Staff; Lieutenant Colonel Pich Chay; and Lieutenant Colonel Ong Sien, director of the infantry school, as well as many chiefs and deputy chiefs from various departments and services of the Defense Ministry.

Comrade Lt. Col. Ong Sien presented a report on the successful result of the 12-month training course, during which all the trainees had paid great attention to all subjects of study. The success was achieved with pride thanks to the skills displayed by the instructors and the assistance provided by higher authorities. After completing the course, all the trainees have gained more knowledge and have become more competent. Each was awarded a training certicate.

Following the oath of allegiance taken by the trainees, Comrade Gen. Tie Banh in his address extolled the newly-trained cadres for their assiduity and the instructors for their efforts in bringing the course to a successful finish. He urged the cadres to apply the knowledge they gained to their new missions, thus contributing to effectively fighting the enemies and crushing all manner of their perfidious maneuvers.

In reply to the valuable advice given by Comrade Tie Banh, a representive of the trainees pledged to make all kinds of sacrifices for the cause of the nation's independence and the people's happiness.

Say Phuthang Welcomes 1990-1991 Academic Year

BK2409102490 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 2300 GMT 23 Sep 90

["Message" from Say Phuthang, member of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Party Political Bureau, vice chairman of the State Council, and chairman of the Central Control Commission, to teachers and students nationwide at the start of the 1990-1991 academic year—recorded]

[Summary] In his message, Say Phuthang thanked a great many Cambodian overseas residents, international organizations, and friendly countries for their support, assistance, and efforts in promoting Cambodian education, the construction of school buildings, and so on. He recounted the background of the restoration of Cambodia's educational system, saying the State of Cambodia now has a total of 5,226 schools with 1,622,680 students.

He urged students throughout the country to strive to overcome all difficulties and obstacles with a view toward winning successes in their studies. Moreover, he said: "You should make a clear distinction between friends and foes of our motherland and become zealously involved in defending our national social gains with a high sense of responsibilty in this new stage where the nation is displaying joint efforts and using concerted measures and combined means to fight the enemy on the battlefield. You should be willing to serve the country in keeping with the party and state's policies. In particular, you should assist in energetically developing the veritable revolutionary might of the Armed Forces, thus contributing to defending the motherland and blocking the return of the genocidal regime."

In conclusion, Say Phuthang thanked the teachers and urged them to continue their endeavors in carrying out the task of providing education to Cambodian youngsters to successfully defend and rebuild the country. He also called on them to vigorously strengthen their solidarity and unity and to become more intensely involved in the three movements of the revolution to promote the State of Cambodia's prosperity. He wished the teachers and students the best of health and multifarious successes in this new school year.

Paper Warns of Attacks in 'Immediate Future'

BK2709062190 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 2300 GMT 26 Sep 90

[PRACHEACHON editorial; date not given: "Pay Attention to Smashing Enemy Maneuvers To Grab Localities"]

[Text] The period since the complete withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Cambodia has been a great testing time for us because we have to assume every task ourselves in a situation in which the enemies continue to stick together against us. However, thanks to the great and most precious sacrifice of our cadres, party members, combatants, and people, both in the front ranks and at the back, we have managed to control every field.

For the past nearly 12 years, particularly after the complete withdrawal of Vietnamese volunteer troops, all types of reactionary Cambodians have gathered their forces to attack us through large-scale offensives aimed at controlling a number of provinces adjoining the Cambodian-Thai border, such as Battambang, Banteay Meanchey, and Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchey. Inside the country, the enemies have made efforts to carry out perfidious and most dangerous maneuvers. They have intensified the implementation of the policy to win people and carried out maneuvers to build hidden forces, promote psychological warfare, and carry out propaganda to split our ranks. To this day, the enemies not only have not changed their strategic maneuvers but continue to commit barbarous and savage crimes of robbing and burning down people's houses and massacring people mercilessly. This has caused constant suffering for the people.

The noble goal of our State of Cambodia's party and government is to maintain security for the people and do whatever possible to quickly shorten their suffering. For more than two years, through the efforts, goodwill, and sincere stance of our State of Cambodia, the diplomatic struggle has led to the elimination of the deadlock caused by the stance lacking in goodwill and sabotage of the other Cambodian side. To this day, the enemies have not yet seized any areas inside the country and used them as bases of their liberated zones. Taken into account the diplomatic situation of this struggle, the enemies will, in the immediate future, seek to carry out maneuvers and push for the control of areas to build a base inside the country.

Thus, the tasks to prevent and smash the enemy maneuvers to preserve localities and defend state authorities, cadres, and people in localities, are important and most pressing ones for all of us at present. To contribute to achieving these tasks, each one of us should grasp the change and evolution of the country's situation and the goal of our task during each stage and actively take part in fighting and smashing every form of enemy maneuvers, particularly implement well the slogan "If three do not, one will report," and carry out effectively the concept that each person is also a combatant and a policeman.

All levels of the party and state authorities, particularly party chapters and state authorities, should pay attention to firmly checking both armed and hidden enemies. They should also constantly exchange information. Concurrently, we should be masters in setting up plans to attack the enemy on the spot to defend every position in our respective perimeter and in launching mopping-up operations to prevent enemy forces from regrouping and from launching surprise attacks.

To achieve these tasks, attention should be paid to building and strengthening collective villages and consolidating well militia and people's police forces. At all times, activities should be coordinated and effective on three prongs to attack the enemies. Attention should also be paid to strengthening the quality of party chapters in communes and consolidating the ranks of core cadres in communes to ensure political quality and working competence. The cadres should be exemplary in showing an ethical way of life and have the confidence and love of the masses and people.

District authorities should strengthen mobile forces to intervene in localities when the situation arises to encourage militiamen and heighten their spirit of absolutely fighting the enemies to defend localities. They should also promote confidence in the cooperation from higher levels and in particular they should pay vigorous attention to communes that have complex situations.

Achieving the above tasks is an immense contribution to preventing the return of the genocidal Pol Pot regime and creating great conditions for achieving our party's strategic goal.

Kompong Thom Forces Reportedly Kill 258 in Aug

BK2509154590 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1200 GMT 25 Sep 90

[Text] In August, Kompong Thom Province's Armed Forces put 422 enemy soldiers out of action, including 258 killed, 43 captured, and 121 who were forced to surrender. Together with this, we also seized 404 assorted firearms, a radio-communications ICOM set, 45 rounds for a DK gun, 19 shells for 105-mm artillery, 435 rounds for 60-mm and 80-mm mortars, and some war materiel.

Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchey Actions Reported

BK2509145090 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1200 GMT 25 Sep 90

[Text] Between 20 August and the second week of September, Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchey Province's Armed Forces put 159 enemy soldiers out of action, including 88 killed, 68 wounded, and three captured. Along with this we seized six assorted weapons and some war materiel.

Our combatants' zealous fighting is clear evidence of their ardent courage and patriotism in carrying out the task of defending the sacred motherland. Our cadres and combatants have nurtured their hatred for the genocidal Pol Pot regime and are resolved to prevent the bloodthirsty regime from returning to Cambodia at all costs.

Indonesia

PRC Embassy in Jakarta Opens After 23 Years

BK2709062590 Hong Kong AFP in English 0612 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] Jakarta, Sept 27 (AFP)—China opened an embassy here Thursday after a 23-year absence, hoisting its red flag at a five-star hotel.

The embassy would be sited at the Borobudur Intercontinental Hotel while a new building was being prepared, said Liu Xinsheng, counsellor and charge d'affairs designate. The flag-hoisting ceremony held on the hotel terrace was presided over by Mr. Liu and two other embassy staff and attended by protocol officials of the Indonesian Foreign Ministry.

Press reports said the embassy would be located at a building formerly used by the National Intelligence Body in south Jakarta. The previous embassy in the busy Chinatown district has been acquired by the Jakarta municipality for a parking garage.

Indonesia and China reopened diplomatic ties on August 8 during a visit here by Chinese Prime Minister Li Peng. Relations were frozen in 1967 after Jakarta accused Beijing of complicity in a failed communist coup attempt, a charge which Beijing denied. The two countries have yet to name their respective ambassadors.

Minister Says Economic Deregulation To Continue

BK2609121590 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0825 GMT 26 Sep 90

[Text] Washington, Sept 26 (OANA-ANTARA)—Indonesian Minister of Finance J.B. Sumarlin told the American officials and businessmen here Monday [24 September] that Indonesia would continue its deregulation policies to make its economy more competitive and efficient.

Speaking at a one-day seminar on Indonesia at the United States foreign affairs department, Sumarlin said that deregulations carried out by Indonesia in its main economic sectors—trade, manufacturing, investment, and finance—had shown an impresive result. Having passed an economic crisis four years ago, the Indonesian economy recorded an increase by more than seven percent in its gross domestic product (GDP) in 1989.

Indonesia's non-oil/gas exports doubled in the period of 1987 to 1989, totalling 10.3 billion U.S. dollars, of which 80 percent was contributed by the manufacturing sector. Foreign and domestic investments also continued to increase. From January to July this year, foreign investments in Indonesia reached 6.3 billion U.S. dollars, exceeding the 4.8 billion U.S. dollars in 1989. The banking reform policies have also enabled the amount of savings to increase from 20 billion U.S. dollars in 1988 to 30 billion U.S. dollars in 1989.

Sumarlin said that the Indonesian success had enhanced business opportunities in various sectors such as trade, manufacturing, industries, finance, and other businesses. Investors are not worried to carry out a long-term plan project in our country, the minister said. Sumarlin said that Indonesia was bound by the free trade system. Therefore protectionism for Indonesia will only cause for concern.

Even though the United States adopted the free trade philosophy, Indonesia often questioned whether the protectionist sentiment would not affect its politics. Indonesia hoped that the Uruguay Round on multilateral trade under the General Agreement on Trade and Tariffs (GATT) would succeed in overcoming protectionism.

Meawhile, Junior Minister of Trade Sudrajat said that the private sector was given a wide chance to play a role in the Indonesian economy. The 60 percent-non-oil exports and 40 percent-oil/gas exports were proof of the big role being played by the private sector in Indonesia, he said.

Seeing the Indonesian economic development in the past few years, Richard Solomon, U.S. foreign secretary assistant for East Asia and the Pacific affairs, predicted that

Indonesia would emerge as a new economic tiger in Asia. For the U.S. investors, there is nothing to worry about in Indonesia, he said.

Alatas Expresses Concern Over Gulf Situation

BK2609105290 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0817 GMT 26 Sep 90

[Text] New York, Sept. 26 (OANA-ANTARA)—Indonesia worries over the deterioration of the Middle East crisis, Foreign Minister Ali Alatas stated in speech at the United Nations General Assembly here earlier this week.

He mentioned the occupation of the Palestinian territories, Goland highland and South Lebanon by Israel and Iraqi invasion of Kuwait as the sources of increasing tension in the Middle East. The situation in Israeli-occupied territories has been worsened by the Israeli policy to invite Soviet Jew immigrants to move to those territories, according to Alatas.

Organizing international meetings on the Middle East is the best way to seek solution to the prolonged tension resulting from Israeli disobedience to United Nations' resolutions and international societies' call for respect to the legitimate right of Palestinians, he further said.

Concerning the Iraqi aggression on Kuwait, Alatas said Indonesia was against the use of military forces or unilateral measures in settling that the Gulf crisis. He expressed confidence that only political steps under the control of the United Nations and the Arab mediation framework would avoid the expansion and the increase of the Gulf conflict. In this context, he called on all countries to refrain from taking their own measures that could deteriorate the situation.

On the occasion, Alatas also disclosed that Indonesia hailed the end of cold war. But he expressed concern over the failure of a conference held to review the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty in Geneva recently. He stated his hope that a conference on the amendment of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty to take place next year would not fail to reach agreement in preparing a total prohibition against the use of nuclear weapons.

Suharto Calls for Greater ASEAN Cooperation

BK2609001890 Hong Kong AFP in English 0227 GMT 25 Sep 90

[Text] Jakarta, Sept 25 (AFP)—Indonesian President Suharto has called for greater economic cooperation among the six members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) to strengthen the region, the ANTARA news agency said Tuesday.

Stronger cooperation would enhance the resilience of each of the ASEAN members as well the entire region, the official agency quoted Mr. Suharto as saying in a speech at a dinner late Monday to honour visiting Malaysian monarch, Sultan Azlan Shah. These in turn would contribute to efforts at making a peaceful, free and neutral Asia, he said.

Mr. Suharto hailed the three-way economic and industrial cooperation between Singapore and the industrial zones of Batam in Indonesia and Johore in Malaysia saying the project would benefit the three countries as well as the other ASEAN members. The project would enhance ASEAN cooperation further in the face of economic globalisation, he added.

ASEAN was set up in 1967 and includes Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand.

Sultan Azlan Shah arrived in Jakarta Monday for a week-long state visit. He was scheduled to have talks with Mr. Suharto later Tuesday.

Suharto, Visiting Malaysian King Hold Talks

BK2509100290 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0742 GMT 25 Sep 90

[Text] Jakarta, Sept 25 (OANA-ANTARA)—President Suharto and visiting Malaysian King Sultan Azlan Shah held a tete-a-tete at the Merdeka Palace [Presidential Palace] here Tuesday to discuss the situations in Indonesia and Malaysia.

Minister/State Secretary Murdiono told reporters after the meeting that President Suharto briefed the king on the political system in Indonesia which is based on the Pancasila ideology and the 1945 Constitution. He also traced historical developments in the country since it gained its independence.

In the meeting, the two leaders did not discuss the problem of Indonesian workers in Malaysia, Murdiono said.

On Tuesday evening, Sultan Azlan Shah will hold a meeting with the Malaysian Embassy's staff here. On the following day, the royal guest and his party will bid farewell with President Suharto and continue his trip to Bandung, Yogyakarta and Bali.

Sultan Azlan Shah, who arrived here on Monday morning, will receive a honorary doctorate degree from Gajah Mada Univerisity in Yogyakarta on Friday [28 September]

Norway Frees Textile Exports From Quota

BK2609121890 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0830 GMT 26 Sep 90

[Text] Jakarta, Sept. 26 (OANA-ANTARA)—The Norwegian Government has agreed to free the Indonesian textile exports, particularly Category 3 (knitted wears), 4 (underwears), 6 (pullover sweaters, and jackets) and 8 (woven products) from quota as of October 1, according to the Indonesian Embassy in Oslo on Wednesday. The agreement also covered the Indonesian exports to that country of clothes for children aged below 12 years (height not more than 152 cm) which are classified in Category 1 (jackets, suits, and sports wears), 2 (jeans) and 5 (shirts).

With the agreement, the Norwegian Government partially amended the bilateral textile agreement between the two countries signed in 1988.

Indonesia's textile exports which are still to be affected by quota imposed by Norway include clothes for the adult or children of above 12 years and textiles for household needs which are classified in Category 1, 2, 5, and 7.

The Indonesian textile exports to Norway in 1989 totalled 42.03 million Norwegian kronner, accounting only for one percent of that country's total imports. With the agreed free quota, the Indonesian textile exports to Norway are expected to increase in the future.

Laos

Technical Talks on Border Held With PRC

BK2409134590 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 1200 GMT 24 Sep 90

[Text] A technical Sino-Lao border delegation led by Comrade (Cheng Pomian) paid a courtesy call on Comrade Soulivong Phasithidet, deputy minister for foreign affairs, at the Foreign Ministry this morning. During the meeting, Comrade Soulivong Phasithidet praised the continuous improvment of friendly relations and cooperation in many areas between the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR] and the PRC. He informed his guests about the strong desire of the Lao Government and people to turn the Lao-Sino border into a border of peace, friendship, and cooperation. The meeting proceeded in a good atmosphere of cordiality and mutual understanding. Comrade Liang Feng, PRC ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the LPDR, was also present at the meeting.

In compliance with the memorandum of the first negotiations between the delegations of the LPDR and PRC Governments signed on 25 August 1990, the technical Lao-Sino border delegation led by Comrade Chaleun Valinthasak and the technical Sino-Lao border delegation led by Comrade (Cheng Pomian) held talks in Vientiane capital on 24 September. During the meeting, both sides reviewed and discussed the areas along the Lao-Sino border as they appear on the maps of each side in accordance with the Tientsin Treaty signed between China and France in 1895. The delegations also worked out an aerial photography plan and discussed other related issues. This is the first time the two countries have made joint efforts to examine their common border to turn it into a border of peace, friendship, and cooperation.

During its stay in the LPDR, the Chinese border delegation will visit a number of cultural and production bases in Khammouane Province before returning to China on 27 September.

Deputy Trade Minister Signs Fair Contract

OW2609170990 Vientiane KPL in English 0908 GMT 26 Sep 90

[Text] Vientiane, Sept 26 (KPL)—A contract on trade fair business at Thatluang Ground for 1990 was signed here yesterday between Deputy Minister of Trade and Tourism Khamphanh Simmalavong, who is also president of the committee for the 1990 Thatluang Trade Fair, and Mr Khaythong Sengchanh and Dr Pane Latsavong, co-chairmen of the Wqoop [as received] Trade Fair Company.

The contract covers the construction work in which many ber 6. [sentence as received] Goods to be on display at the fair will be mostly agricultural products, materials, consumer goods, both from within the country and from overseas.

According to the committee's plan, over 20 countries will be invited to attend the fair. So far some countries namely Vietnam, China, Thailand, Sweden, Japan, Australia, and Taiwan, have already accepted the invitation.

110 Vehicles Ordered From USSR for 1990

OW2609171190 Vientiane KPL in English 0905 GMT 26 Sep 90

[Text] Vientiane, Sept 26 (KPL)—For 1990 the vehicle supply company has ordered about 110 vehicles, 30 of which are trucks, from the Soviet Union, the head of the company reported.

He further said car distributing business here is considerably good, however, there remains now a 200 million kip worth of spare-parts that cannot be distributed as they become outdated.

Of the 100 ordered vehicles, only 45 has reached the country so far because of delay in import.

Young People Show 'Patriotism' in Joining Army

OW2509145390 Vientiane KPL in English 0920 GMT 25 Sep 90

[Text] Vientiane, Sept 25 (KPL)— More than 200 young men in Kham District, Xiengkhouang Province, and in Samtay District, Houaphanh Province, have voluntarily joined the army this month.

In addition, 130 young men in Sayaboury District, province of the same name, have voluntarily joined the army since the begining of this year.

This showed the spirit of patriotism of the Lao young people.

Philippines

Manglapus Endorses Japan's UN Peace Plan

OW2609235690 Tokyo KYODO in English 2308 GMT 25 Sep 90

[By Shiro Yoneyama]

[Text] New York, Sept. 26 KYODO—Philippine Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul Manglapus on Wednesday endorsed a Japanese plan to enact legislation facilitating the dispatch of noncombat troops to trouble spots, calling it a "brilliant and creative idea," a Japanese official said.

Manglapus expressed support for the Japanese proposal in a meeting with Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama, the official said at a news briefing. The official said Nakayama explained to Manglapus that Japanese noncombatants to be dispatched under the new law will engage in "medical, telecommunications, and construction work."

The Japanese Government is currently working on the details of a United Nations Peace Cooperation Law, prompted by the Persian Gulf crisis and by overseas criticism that Japan, the world's second largest economic power, is not doing enough to assist Saudi Arabia and other oil-rich Gulf states.

The United States is calling on its allies and friends to send military personnel to the Gulf region to deter further Iraqi aggression.

Japan's post-World War II Constitution renounces war and bans "the threat or use of force as means of settling international disputes." The Self-Defense Forces [SDF] Law bans the dispatch of SDF personnel abroad.

Nakayama assured Manglapus that Japan will closely consult with the Philippines and other Asian countries concerning the proposed law, the official told reporters.

As in an earlier meeting with Malaysian Foreign Minister Abu Hassan on Tuesday, Nakayama told Manglapus that he will personally meet ambassadors in Tokyo from the Asia-Pacific region to discuss the proposed U.N. Peace Cooperation Law, in order to allay fears of Japanese military expansion.

The Japanese official said Nakayama did not offer any new economic aid to the Philippines, whose economy is currently being battered by higher oil prices and the suspension of remittances by Filipino workers in Iraq and Iraqi-occupied Kuwait.

Manglapus, chief of the Philippine bases negotiating team, told Nakayama that the government of President Corazon Aquino is exploring a "politically feasible solution" to the issue of U.S. military bases in his country, according to the Japanese official. Calling the issue a "politically delicate" subject, Manglapus also told Nakayama that the presence of the U.S. bases, such as Clark Air Base and Subic Naval Base, represents a legacy of American colonial rule.

The Japanese official told reporters that Nakayama expressed his hopes for a peaceful resolution of the bases issue which he said affects the Asia-Pacific region.

Reportage on U.S. Bases Issue Continues

Comment on Clark Conversion Plan

HK2709033590 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 27 Sep 90 pp 1, 6

[By Lito Zulueta and Marites Paez with a report from Rolando Pascual]

[Text] The Philippines has proposed converting the Clark Air Base in Pampanga for commercial use beginning September 1991, which means, among other things, allowing air lines to use it.

Beginning January 1991, according to a general plan, the Philippines will share military use of the base. The plan has been put to the United States during the current talks over the future of the American military presence here, according to Health Secretary Alfredo Bengzon, vice chairman of the Philippine bases panel.

He said that under the conversion plan prepared by the government, Clark would be transformed into a civil aviation complex as well as the general headquarters of the relocated Philippine Air Force by the time the lease of the American facilities here expires on Sept. 16, 1991.

Bengzon said the proposal showed the Americans that the Philippines wants "to maintain friendly relations across all fronts."

"In other words, a configuration in the profile of these facilities is definitely not incompatible with continuing to be friends and allies any more than the changing world order is not incompatible with keeping friends and allies with other nations," he said.

The U.S. and the Philippines adjourned talks Friday on the future [of] America's largest overseas military installations, but agreed to resume talks next month.

During the discussions, the Philippines said it wanted to recover Clark and smaller facilities other than the Subic Naval Base. President Aquino said that continued U.S. use of Subic was negotiable.

American Ambassador Nicholas Platt said Monday that the U.S. wants continued access to Clark even if the Philippines takes control of it, suggesting that the facility accommodate U.S. jets and planes for repairs.

The American panel had proposed a 10-year period for what it called a "phasedown" or a gradual pullout of its forces here. But the Legislative-Executive Bases Council, which drew up the conversion plans for the American facilities here on the assumption of a total pullout by

September next year, said such a "transition period" could "drastically affect" their plans.

Council members said that conversion plans for Subic remain a "sticky point" because of President Aquino's statement that the fate of the naval base was "negotiable."

Bengzon, reacting to Platt's proposal, said that Clark may be used by the U.S. "on a commercial basis."

In New York, Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus told the Chronicle that the Philippines would not budge from its position of taking control over Clark after the bases agreement expires, but was prepared to give the U.S. continued "commercial" access to Subic.

Manglapus, who was scheduled to attend the United Nations General Assembly, said that the U.S. had no choice but to accept such terms if it wanted to have continued access to the military facilities here.

"They (U.S.) know that if they don't give use back Clark, then the talks are finished. (If there would be) no more talks, then they would have to go in both places (Subic and Clark)," Manglapus said.

He added that the government would soon meet with the members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (Asean) to forge a consensus on the future of Subic.

Bengzon explained that the key words in the Philippine position are "Filipinize" and "civilianize." He pointed out that the Philippines would not want foreign combat troops in the country after 1991, but would open Clark for commercial use of all countries, including the Soviets. "The buzzword here is...the age of multilateralism rather than bilateralism," he said.

Bengzon and the Philippine panel briefed the President yesterday on the bases talks. The health secretary said that Mrs Aquino had instructed them to get things moving on the non-security aspects of the talks.

Technical committees have been formed by the two panels to discuss concerns raised by the Philippines on environment, the veterans issue, health, debt management and trade.

Ramos on Joint Bases Use

HK2709075190 Quezon City Radyo Ng Bayan in Tagalog 0630 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos today expressed the belief that a Philippine-U.S. joint use of the military bases will pave the way for an easier transition period toward the gradual bases phaseout after September 1991. Ramos strongly requested the joint use of the two U.S. military facilities in the country, although there is no concrete agreement reached by both panels during the second round of talks on the military bases, which ended recently.

Ramos clarified that his proposal does not mean he wants a new agreement for the retention of the U.S. military bases, but rather to expedite and arrange for an orderly takeover in the future by the Philippine authorities of the military facilities:

[Begin Ramos recording in English] [Words indistinct] agreement to use Clark and Subic by the Philippine Air Force and the Philippine Navy, respectively, together with their U.S. counterparts. I think the transition period would be much easier. [Words indistinct] to give our personnel much more experience and exposure to the management and operations of this very complex air and naval systems. It would benefit both sides. [end recording]

Manglapus-Baker Agenda Viewed

HK2609101290 Quezon City MALAYA in English 26 Sep 90 p 2

[Report by Ellen Tordesillas]

[Text] The U.S. military bases in the Philippines will be one of the items in the agenda of the talks between Foreign Secretary Raul S. Manglapus and U.S. State Secretary James Baker Thursday in New York, a high-ranking foreign affairs official said yesterday.

The official said the Manglapus-Baker meeting will take place after the meeting of Banker with the six foreign ministers of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations.

"It can't be avoided that the bases will be discussed," the official said, adding that he won't be surprised if the discussion will focus on the bases. Meanwhile, Jose Ma. Sison, Communist Party founder, said the United States should withdraw all military personnel, depenents and movable property from its military bases in the country from Sept. 16, 1990 to Sept. 16, 1991. In a statement on the U.S. bases, Sison said: "The period allows the U.S. more than enough time to withdraw all these components of the military bases." If the U.S. can move 200,000 troops and heavy military equipment to Saudi Arabia within only two months, Sison said, "there is absolutely no reason why it cannot vacate the bases and move out a comparably smaller number of personnel and property within one year before Sept. 16, 1991."

The DFA [Department of Foreign Affairs] official said one of the topics in the U.S.-ASEAN meeting will be the Southeast Asia regional security proposed by Manglapus in the recent 23rd ASEAN ministerial meeting in Jakarta. Manglapus had asked the ASEAN foreign ministers for their stand on the presence of U.S. military bases in the Philippines.

Manglapus is attending the 45th United Nations General Assembly and is scheduled to deliver his speech on Oct. 2.

In last week's first round of Philippine-American Cooperation Talks, [PACT] U.S. negotiator Richard Armitage asked the Philippine panel headed by Manglapus to "give our friends in the region adequate time to adjust to a world in which superpower rivalry is being replaced by the proliferation of regional powers seeking domination of their respective neighborhoods."

The second round of PACT will be held in Manila in October. Manglapus had insisted that no bases talks will be held while he is in the U.S.

The U.S. last week proposed a 10 to 12 years phasedown of Clark and Subic and Commercial access afterwards for their Military Airlife Command and in Crow Valley.

Meanwhile, in an interview over radio station DZRH, U.S. Ambassador Nicholas Platt said the executive department is asking for an exemption to a bill providing a cap of 3.5 per cent increase in salary increases of the U.S. government employes to enable them to comply with the agreement they signed with Philippine bases employes which called for a 16 per cent increase in wages.

Sison said it was an "act of treason" for Philippine government officials, including President Aquino and Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus, "to pay lip service to the national sovereignty and territorial integrity, and yet allow the extension of the U.S. military bases beyond the expiry date." He also condemned the "brutality" with which the Philippine military and police forces are trying to "suppress patriotic" mass actions against the continuance of U.S. military forces and facilities in the country. "All legal democratic forces have a great opportunity for launching a crescendo of protest mass actions concerning the U.S. military bases and other issues," he added. It is the task of the "armed revolutionary movement to intensify its tactical offensives mainly in the rural areas, where ther is a reduction of military strength," he said.

Bombing Incidents, Explosions Continue

12 Hurt in Mindoro Occidental

HK2609101090 Quezon City MALAYA in English 26 Sep 90 p 5

[Text] Twelve persons were seriously injured last Sunday after a man hurled a hand grenade in front of a restaurant in San Jose, Mindoro Occidental.

Injured in the explosion outside the OIC Restaurant on Quirino St. were Jose Esturis, Cirilo Camus, Allan Guiron, Donato Trinidad, Pay Panganiban, Lorien Liboro, Marlon Mantio, Qujirino Anonuevo, Edmundo Estipona, Rudy Cang, Gerald Liboro, and Analyn Palisoc, the PC [Philippine Constabulary] said.

Manila Building Incident Noted

HK1409111590 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 14 Sep 90

[Text] Another bombing incident took place early this morning in Manila. The said bombing took place at 0540 in front of the D.M. Consunji Building on Quinino Avenue, Paco, Manila. Several unidentified men in a car were seen throwing the said bomb, that according to investigators was a C-4 type bomb. There were no reported fatalities, although a security guard was injured by broken glass resulting from the explosion.

According to investigators, the said bombing was perpetrated by rebel soldiers, because they had seen some identifying marks which points to the said group. The said bombing incident is the second this week and the 24th in the last month.

Military Officers Linked to Bombs

HK2609040790 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 26 Sep 90 p 9

[By Wilma Yamzon]

[Text] The military linked yesterday an Army officer, a Navy commodore, and a civilian to the wave of bombings in Metro Manila. Constabulary probers said a lieutenant was behind last Sunday's bombings at two five-star hotels in Makati.

In a report to Maj. Gen. [Major General] Cesar P. Nazareno, PC-INP [Philippine Constabulary-Integrated National Public] chief, Brig. Gen. [Brigadier General] Pantaleon Dumlao Jr., PC-INP Criminal Investigation Service (CIS) chief, identified the main suspect as 1st Lt. [Lieutenant] Paterno Padua, a member of the Philippine Military Academy [PMA] Class '83. Padua was also tagged one of those who joined the last Dec. 1-7 coup attempt.

On the other hand, the Intelligence Service of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (ISAFP) pointed to Navy Commodore Domingo Calajate as the person behind the bomb explosions in the metropolis. Intelligence officials said they are also looking into reports that Calajate finances a group of dismissed soldiers robbing banks in the city.

"Calajate also maintains a vast net-work of people employed in several banks, and this is the reason a number of bank armored cars are easily opened minutes after his group strikes," an official said. Other sources, however, said Calajate is hiding in the countryside and that it is unlikely that he will resort to robbery to raise funds for rebel soldiers

CIS probers identified another bombing suspect Manuel Castillo of 3621 Osmena Blvd., Cebu City. Castillo was believed to be the carrier of the bombs which exploded at Hotel Nikko Manila Garden and the Mandarin Oriental Manila hotel in Makati.

More on Rebel Army Lieutenant

HK2609013190 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in Tagalog 0100 GMT 26 Sep 90

[Text] A rebel army lieutenant was identified as the person responsible for the bombing of the Mandarin Hotel and Hotel Nikko in Makati last Sunday.

According to Brigadier General Pantaleon Dumlao, interviews and sketches taken from witnesses points at Paterno Padua as the person who placed the bombs in the two hotels. Padua was seen coming out of the Hotel Nikko Manila Garden before the bomb exploded. Eight hotel guests were hurt in this explosion.

According to the military, Padua was one of the rebel soldiers who occupied several hotels during the December coup attempt. He is also one of the wanted military personnel for escaping from his detention cell.

Military Admits Inability

HK2609133390 Manila Radio Veritas in Tagalog 1300 GMT 26 Sep 90

[Text] Armed Forces of the Philippines Chief of Staff General Renato de Villa admitted that the military cannot stop every single attack on business and industrial establishments in Metro Manila.

[Begin de Villa recording in English] Well, we predicted that they would somehow take advantage of the crisis, did we not? The oil price increase and the actions which are taking place now—in so far as demands from the government are concerned— present a ready-made situation for them and I think they are just simply taking advantage of it. [end recording]

Explosion Near Clark Air Base

HK2709021990 Quezon City Radyo Ng Bayan in Tagalog 0200 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] Suspected communist rebels were responsible for the explosion and gun firing near the Clark Air Base, Angeles City this morning. No one was reported injured in the aforementioned attack by the communist rebels on the area.

Angeles authorities said the armed men were seen placing a dozen explosives on the MacArthur highway near the U.S. air base. They also burned car tires on the road.

It was learned the armed men were demanding the removal of the U.S. forces from the country. The police found placards stating their denunciation of the oil price hike.

Bombs Hit U.S. Multinational Firms

HK2709003390 Hong Kong AFP in English 0023 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] Manila, Sept 27 (AFP)—Bomb explosions rocked three American multinational firms in the Philippine financial district overnight, causing slight damage but no casualties, police said Thursday. Police and bomb disposal experts raced from one area to another in the posh Makati district, but failed to arrest any suspects. No group immediately claimed responsibility for the blasts.

An explosive device was hurled into the guarded laboratory compound of Wyeth-Suaco at dawn Thursday, hitting a bunker fuel tank, damaging some mirrors and destroying several containers of non-flammable chemicals.

A second blast rocked the compound of another American drug firm, Squibb, less than 30 minutes earlier, but landed harmlessly in the garden. The two factories are on the same street.

An explosive device was hurled by unknown men at the Boston Bank building in Makati before dawn Thursday, but it failed to explode and was disarmed by police ordnance experts.

Late Wednesday, men in a car hurled a bomb at the local subsidiary of Colgate-Palmolive, causing slight damage but no injuries.

The bombings occurred a week after the U.S. Embassy here advised American nationals to shun the area fronting the mission due to bomb threats allegedly from communist guerrillas.

At least 50 explosions have hit the capital since the start of the year. Most of them were set off by right-wing military rebels seeking to topple President Corazon Aquino, according to military officials.

The bombing apparently shifted to foreign targets mainly in the Makati financial district on Sunday, when bombs exploded at rooms in the Japan Airlines-owned Hotel Nikko Manila Garden and at the Mandarin, controlled by an Asian-European group.

Bombs also damaged soft drink bottling plants of Coca-Cola and Pepsi Cola on Wednesday, while an explosive device was defused outside a semi-conductor factory of the U.S. firm Motorola.

Military rebels led by former Army Colonel Gregorio Honasan have previously issued strong condemnations of the U.S. Government's role in quelling a coup attempt they mounted in December, the sixth against the Aquino government.

American warplanes flew protective cover for government forces during the putsch at the request of Mrs. Aquino, but did not take part in the fighting itself. The rebellion left 119 people dead and about 500 wounded.

The armed forces chief, General Renato de Villa, admitted Wednesday that it was "very difficult" to stop the bombings because they could not anticipate all the probable targets.

He said they were part of an apparent attempt to create "an atmosphere of destabilization" by taking advantage of popular resentment over a 29 per cent hike in domestic oil prices. He said they were holding discussions with private security firms employed by most Manila establishments to tighten security at their places of work.

Further on Explosions at Firms

HK2709045190 Manila DWIZ Radio News 882 in Tagalog 0400 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] A series of powerful explosions occurred last night and early this morning in various parts of Makati, metro Manila.

At about 2300 last night, a bomb exploded at the Colgate-Palmolive Philippines Incorporated building in J.P. Rizal, Makati.

At about 0445 early this morning, another strong explosion occurred at the Wyeth-Suaco Pharmaceutical Incorporated in Pasong Tamo, Makati. Ten minutes later at about 0455, an explosion at the Squibb Laboratories, also in Pasong Tamo, took place.

Although no one was reported wounded in the explosions, the Colgate-Palmolive, Wyeth-Suaco, and Squibb Laboratory buildings sustained severe damage. Authorities expressed the belief that these are still part of the destabilization moves to overthrow the Aquino government.

Two Terrorist Suspects Arrested

HK2709034690 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 27 Sep 90 p 6

[Report by Rico Rosario and Joey Caburnida with contributions from Noli Cabantug and Manny Mogato]

[Excerpts] Suspected terrorists bombed two rival bottling firms—Coca Cola and Pepsi Cola—within minutes of each other at dawn yesterday as the Quezon City police announced the arrest of two factory workers while allegedly carrying a bagful of dynamite. [passage omitted]

The suspects were identified as Jojo Lucero, 26, of 1715 Gason St. and Genito Nueva, 24, of 71-C West Riverside St., both in San Francisco del Monte. Police said both were from Samar and worked in a wire factory.

Their captors said they saw the two suspects carrying a bag and jogging "at the unholy hour" of about 2:45 a.m. When they approached, they said the suspects fled until they were cornered along Corone St. Their bag, police said, yielded about 10 stcks of dynamite, a detonation cord and a blasting cap which were covered by "pan de sal" purchased from a bakery in Masambong.

The suspects denied they were terrorists and said they were to be paid P [peso] 200 each to deliver the dynamite to a man who would be waiting for them at the Del Monte Bakery. The dynamite supplier was identified as a certain Raul Martinez, an acquaintance of Lucero. [passage omitted]

Rebels 'Responsible' for Bombings

HK2709064790 Quezon City Radyo Ng Bayan in Tagalog 0400 GMT 27 Sep 90

[By Jim Belasano from Camp Aguinaldo]

[Text] Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos pointed to three groups as being responsible for the series of bombings in Metro Manila. In a news conference held here at the Social Hall, Department of National Defense, Ramos said that included in these groups are the group of rebel soldiers, CPP-NPA [Communist Party of the Philippines-New People's Army], and other criminal groups. Here is Defense Secretary Ramos' statement:

[Begin recording in English] [Words indistinct] in the analysis of the intelligence community is being done by the military rebels or the RAM [Reform the Armed Forces Movement].

Now secondly, the CPP-NPA is also doing something in the National Capital Region. Now, there is a third group which are probably just criminals, extortionists hoping to extort money from businessmen or buildings of businessmen or owners of buildings by threatening to bomb, riding now on what the RAM and the CPP are doing. But in my belief, the majority of these are being done by the military rebels. [end recording]

AFP Chief Asks for Public Support

HK2709102790 Manila Radio Veritas in Tagalog 0900 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] Armed Forces of the Philippines [AFP] Chief of Staff General Renato de Villa called for a stop to the bombings if the different factions are sincere in their desire for peace. He also called for an end to the support being given by some civilians to the terrorrists carrying out these bombings in various parts of Metro Manila. In an interview, General de Villa said that the military was doing everything but it lacked the support of the people.

[Begin De Villa recording—in progress]...that we will capture all of them. Secondly, on their own, they should listen to public sentiment. What the public wants is a truce and as proof of this we are talking with the NGO's [Non-Governmental Organizations] about [word indistinct] and majority of our citizens are crying for peace, asking for a stop to all this destruction because it is bad for our economy and the majority of the people are suffering. But the bombers have their own agenda, they have their own dream that they will take charge of all of this. Until they let go of that agenda, I think that the only thing we can do is to establish widespread relations with our people and apply pressure. Secondly, we ask that the people help us by pointing out to us where they are because there are still people supporting them. [end recording]

League of Leagues Starts National Peace Campaign

HK2709035890 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 27 Sep 90 pp 1, 24

[Excerpt] The League of Leagues, also known as the Union of Elected Local Officials of the Philippines (UELOP), the umbrella organization of the league provinces, cities, municipalities, and barangays, launched yesterday a campaign for nationwide peace.

In a conference called by Bulacan Gov. Roberto Pagdanganan, chairman of the UELOP and president of the League of Provinces, at the league's headquarters in Makati, the group agreed that all local governments in province, cities, town, and barangays will air an appeal to stop violence like bombings aimed at destabilizing the government.

The general public suffers directly because of fear and anxiety," the governor said. Pagdanganan appealed to politicians to stop political bickering.

Mayor Renato Reyes, president of the League of Municipalities and UELOP president, said "it's about time all leaders of all political party persuasions act as statesmen at this time when the world is facing an economic and politicial upheaval. Let us foreign politics in this time of difficulties." [passage omitted]

Aquino Reconsiders Initiative Toward Communists

HK2609101390 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 26 Sep 90 pp 1, 6

[Report by Redempto Anda and Patrick Paez]

[Excerpts] President Aquino yesterday indicated that the government would reconsider its initiatives toward peace with the communists following their rejection of a ceasefire and threat to resume its offensives in Metro Manila and in the earthquake-ravaged areas, where it had on its own observed a truce.

But Sen. Wigberto Tanada and peace advocate Ed Garcia remained hopeful that the peace process would prosper despite the setbacks.

[passage omitted]

In a statement, the President said the rebel rejection of the truce would be taken up at a meeting Friday between government officials and peace advocates. "The prospects of continuing the process of searching for peace will be properly assessed," she said.

Unfazed by the developments, Tanada noted that the limited truce was declared not in response to the NDF [National Democratic Front] ceasefire but to the "people's clamor for peace." "I believe there might be a good chance that the NPA [New People's Army] will reverse its position," he said. For his part, Garcia said that the NPA decision should not be a stumbling block to the peace process.

He told the CHRONICLE that there were more substantive issues to be discussed during the peace talks than just a ceasefire, "Though, of course, it would provide a more conducive atmosphere for them." He said he was "disappointed" because the acceptance by the Left of a ceasefire would have been a minor achievement in the "confidence building" process that might lead up to the talks. "I'm sure they (the communists) are using this as a way of exerting their own public pressure," which he said the government and the citizenry should also give a try to get the talks going.

Garcia said the talks could cover major issues like the agrarian and debt problems, and possibly the Gulf crisis, the oil price increases, the bases talks, and coup threats.

[passage omitted]

Government To Discuss Kintanar's Announcement

HK2609051390 Manila BUSINESS WORLD in English 26 Sep 90 p 12

[Excerpts] Justice Secretary Franklin M. Drilon, head of the government panel discussing peace initiatives, said yesterday he will meet with the multisectorial peace advocates on Friday to seek clarification regarding the statements recently made by New People's Army [NPA] Chief Romulo Kintanar that communist guerrillas will resume armed hostilities against the Government. [passage omitted]

As this developed, Gen. Renato S. de Villa, Armed Forces of the Philippines [AFP] Chief of Staff, yesterday made little regard of the recent threat made by Mr. Kintanar ordering the resumption of the NPA's offensive operations in Metro Manila and other earthquake-stricken provinces in Northern Luzon.

Mr. Kintanar's statement, which was issued Monday night, was reportedly made to denounce the decision of government to increase fuel prices and the recent violent dispersal of some anti-U.S. bases demonstrators by the police. The NPA chief added communist rebels would henceforth "intensify armed operations" in Metro Manila and in the other areas affected by the recent earthquake in response to the Aquino government's "bad faith, arrogance and duplicity."

Gen. de Villa stated that "Kingtanar's latest threat to escalate CPP-NPA-NDF [Communist Party of the Philippines-New People's Army-National Democratic Front] violence in our society evidently indicates his insincerity and reluctance to join the government in its earnest effort to bring about an enduring peace in our country."

The AFP chief further stated that the NPA move, "shows utter disregard to the plight of our countrymen in those areas where the paramount need at this moment is unhampered reconstruction and rehabilitation." This development, therefore, makes the NPA's previous decision to cease its offensive operations in order to facilitate rescue and relief operations moot and academic.

It is most likely, according to Gen. de Villa, "that Kintanar and his group in the leadership of the CPP-NPA-NDF intend to exploit the current crisis to gain some advantage in pursuing their so-called politico-military strategy which is aimed at creating an atmosphere of insurrection in urban centers, particularly Metro Manila."

Meanwhile, Sen. Tanada yesterday urged Government to "more sincerely respond" to the people's call for reforms by addressing the country's fundamental problems. This, he said, will ensure the success of the ongoing peace efforts. Sen. Tanada, however, said the NDF is still "leaving the door open for two-way peace talks and national dialogue." "I hope the Government will not recall its order which declared a suspension of operations against leftist rebels in selected areas since there is a good chance that the CPP-NPA-NDF will reconsider its position," he said.

Communists Scrap Accord; To Intensify Attacks

HK2509014990 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in Tagalog 0100 GMT 25 Sep 90

[Text] Communist rebels yesterday ended a two-week ceasefire with the government. According to New People's Army [NPA] chief Romulo Kintanar, they will further intensify their operations in Metro Manila as well as in earthquake-affected areas because of the lack of sincerity, as well as the arrogance and indecisiveness of the government. Kintanar's decision was the result of oil price increases and the police's harsh action toward anti-U.S. bases demonstrators.

Meanwhile, the president stressed that the government should not be blamed for the increase in oil prices. Instead, the rise is attributed to the unavoidable crisis in the Gulf and to the country's dependence on oil importation from the Middle East.

Nevertheless, Kintanar said that the government's peace initiative was clearly intended to facilitate the destruction of the insurgents by dividing them. He added that he will not allow his forces to remain defenseless. Kintanar also said that the NPA will intensify operations even in areas still under rehabilitation now.

Meanwhile, the National Democratic Front indicated that it will still give the government a chance to negotiate for a lasting peace.

Extension of Cease-Fire Said Considered

HK2209044990 Manila DWIZ Radio News 882 in Tagalog 0400 GMT 22 Sep 90

[Text] The government is considering the declaration of a cease-fire in eight more provinces. This was revealed by Justice Secretary Franklin Drilon. The provinces are Ifugao, Abra, Kalinga Apayao, Nueva Ecija, Pangasinan, La Union, Tarlac, and Pampanga. Aside from Metro Manila, the areas in the country currently implementing a cease-fire policy are: Benguet, Nueva Vizcaya, Mountain Province, and Baguio City.

Meanwhile, a five-man team was formed by the peace talks panel to monitor the implementation of the cease-fire. According to Drilon, he has yet to receive reports about any violation of the cease-fire.

Luzon Officials Ordered To Probe Peace Offers

HK1409132290 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 14 Sep 90

[Text] Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos instructed Southern Luzon military commanders to determine and study the integration of the so-called people-initiated peace offerings with the president's policy on suspension of military offensive operations in order to pave the way to peace negotiations. Ramos issued the order in response to an appeal made by a Church-based organization in Naga City, the Hearts of Peace, to the city board, calling for declaration of a cease-fire in Naga City during observation of the feast of Our Lady of Penafrancia this coming Sunday.

Ramos ordered Solcom [Southern Luzon Command] commander Brigadier General Federico Ruiz to conduct dialogues with local residents regarding the holding of peace talks and to find out about the prospects for peace without jeopardizing peace and order in their areas of jurisdiction.

Ramos visited Naga City to explain the government's new policy on the peace talks and cease-fire proposals, notably the president's declaration of a truce in earthquake-affected provinces in Northern Luzon. Ramos also stressed to military officials that even though military operations in these areas have been suspended, the armed forces and the police force will continue to enforce the law and to realize their duties in order to ensure the security of the people.

In holding dialogues with peace proponents, Ramos urged them not to use the word cease-fire because it accords a status of belligerency to rebels who may then exploit it to secure international recognition. To ensure the military's continuing participation in the peace activities, Ramos said that while General Ruiz cannot be physically present in Camarines at all times, he may appoint an official as his deputy.

[Begin Ramos recording in English, in progress] ...because there has been a people's initiative here already in the past, and local government has sort of backed this up by way of a resolution of the city board. The only trouble is that their terminology is cease-fire. We do not want cease-fire to be included in any of the language or policy statements and agreements because that might be misconstrued as a cease-fire leading to a truce, leading to a status of belligerency, which, as far as the Philippine Government is concerned, does not exist for any armed groups in this country because this is an internal matter. [end recording]

General Admits Recruitment Efforts by Rebels

HK1409114190 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 14 Sep 90

[Report by Eloi Aquino from Naga City]

[Text] Brigadier General Federico Ruiz, Solcom [Southern Luzon Command] commanding general, admitted that rebel soldiers had attempted to recruit new members for another planned coup d'etat, but proved unsuccessful. In an interview in Naga City, Ruiz said that former officials stationed in Bicol and the Southern Tagalog Region personally approached unit commanders to convince them to join and support another planned coup d'etat. However, Ruiz refused to disclose the names of the said officials who had personally conducted the recruitment for new members. Ruiz added that the rebel officials concerned could not stay long in his region because he had issued an order for the immediate arrest of any rebel soldier moving around the jurisdiction of the Southern Luzon Command.

[Begin Ruiz recording in English] It has been reported to me, for example, that they are being personally approached, you know, individually. But although I can tell you that the members of the command did not make any commitments for them. [sentence as heard] So I think in so far recruitment is concerned here in the Bicol Region and the Southern Tagalog Region, I am sure it was a failure. [end recording]

Ruiz also said that he believed the rebel officials would stop their recruitment efforts in his area of jurisdiction after their failure.

[Begin Ruiz recording in English] What they do is come around perhaps and, you know, try to talk to these people. But when they come in and ask maybe [passage indistinct] I have standing instructions for their arrest you know. [end recording]

Troopers Wounded in Clash With Noble Supporters

HK2209072990 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 22 Sep 90 p 6

[Report by Fe B. Zamora]

[Text] Butuan City—Rebel militiamen yesterday fired at soldiers pursuing Col. Alexander Noble in the jungle fastnesses of Agusan del Sur, wounding two government troopers. Pfc. Johnny Mantequilla of the 9th Infantry Battalion [IB] was wounded on the chin, while another soldier from the newly arrived 10th IB suffered a wound on the thigh. They were airlifted to this city and rushed to the hospital where doctors pronounced them out of danger.

Mantequilla's buddy, Pfc. Arsenio dela Pena, said they were on routine patrol in Bato-Lunao, Esperanza, at 8 a.m. when fired at by rebel militiamen belonging to the Higaonon tribe. The patrol from the 10th IB was at Km. 13 when harassed by the Higaonon armed followers of the renegade colonel.

Dela Pena said the day before, the rebels also fired at them using 81-mm mortar. "We just sat there because there was nowhere to hide," he told the INQUIRER in the vernacular. The mortar firing lasted from 4-5 p.m.

Dela Pena said seven soldiers from the 26th IB suffered slight wounds from shrapnel. He said the soldiers were still in the area because the wounds were "bearable."

Meanwhile, 327 families who evacuated from Esperanza to this city refused to go back to their homes for fear of retaliation from the Higaonon CAFGUs [Citizens Armed Forces Geographical Unit]. Kagawad Babilonia Hulleza said they will only go back if Noble is captured. "If they don't get Noble, the CAFGUs will still be there in the forests. We cannot collect rattan because they suspect that we have betrayed them," said Hulleza.

NPA Attacks Military Vehicle in Mountains

HK2609110790 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 26 Sep 90

[Text] Communist rebels attacked a military vehicle in Mountain Province yesterday, wounding three government soldiers. This was the first reported communist rebel attack following an announcement that they will resume attacks in earthquake-affected areas.

According to PC-INP [Philippine Constabulary-Integrated National Police] chief Brigadier General Cesar Nazareno, the Mountain Province Provincial PC Command vehicle was on its way back to headquarters when it was ambushed in Barangay Bulog, Kiangan at around 0620 [2220 GMT].

The wounded soldiers were identified only by their surnames: Sergeant Orina, Constable Second Class Hipolito, Fireman Apil [as heard], and Technical Sergeant Avele.

The attack took place one day after Romulo Kintanar, New People's Army [NPA] chief, announced that the rebels will no longer respect a cease-fire policy in earthquake-affected areas. Meanwhile, another group of NPA rebels raided a PC detachment in the same area to stop them sending reinforcements to the ambushed soldiers.

Aquino Invokes Commander in Chief Powers

HK2609110590 Quezon City DZBB Radyo Bisig Bayan in Tagalog 1000 GMT 26 Sep 90

[Text] President Corazon Aquino asserted that she will use one of her supreme powers, as commander in chief of the Armed Forces of the Philippines [AFP], to deal with the deteriorating situation in the country following the eruption of the Middle East crisis. The president's decision was also in response to continuing threats from rebel soldiers belonging to RAM-SFP-YOU [Reform the Armed Forces Movement-Soldiers of the Filipino People-Young Officers Union] as well as from striking workers, teachers and students.

However, the president also stressed that she will not use her powers to declare martial law. Presidential Spokesman Azcuna said that at any time, the president may order the armed forces to arrest troublemakers as well as those seeking to overthrow her government.

According to Azcuna, Mrs Aquino's move is intended to maintain peace and order in the country. He stressed that the president will use her powers as commander in chief if the nationwide strike threatened by workers and the terrorist activities of rebel soldiers continue unabated. He added that it was impossible for top AFP officials not to abide by the president's directives should the crisis in the country worsen.

Official: Aquino Possesses Sufficient Strength

HK2609105190 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 26 Sep 90

[By Vic Pambuan]

[Text] Presidential spokesman Adolf Azcuna announced that President Corazon Aquino has sufficient powers she could use in times of crisis as stipulated in the Constitution, and that there is no need to declare martial law.

In an interview with Azcuna, he said that these powers would only be used to stop any disturbance and restore order in the country. According to the presidential spokesman, the principal power of the president is her status as the commander in chief of the Armed Forces of the Philippines:

[Begin Azcuna recording in English] She has mentioned that her powers under the Constitution, short of martial law, would be sufficient to meet this contingency. [end recording]

In relation to the continuous evacuation of the Filipino workers still stranded in Iraq and Kuwait, Azcuna said Philippine Airlines has temporarily suspended its evacuation flights to Amman, Jordan because flights dispatched by international organizations are sufficient to evacuate the remaining Filipinos in the country.

PC-INP Restructuring in Southern Mindanao

HK2609045790 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 26 Sep 90 p 8

[Report by Bong Reblando]

[Text] Davao City—A major shakeup of Constabulary and police officers in southern Mindanao is being carried out in an effort to strengthen the commands' capability in law enforcement, Col. Manuel Salimbangon, newly installed PC-INP [Philippine Constabulary - Integrated National Police] Region 11 command (Recom 11) said. He said the revamp would enhance law-enforcement efforts.

He disclosed that the command is also pursuing efforts aimed at improving the capability of the "Bantay Bayan" civilian volunteers organization (CVOs) in the region.

Salimbangon designated Lt. Col. Nelson Estares as new commander of the Davao City Metrodiscom [Metropolitan District Command]. He replaced Lt. Col. Franco Calida who will be reassigned to PC Regional Command 9 as provincial commander of Sulu. Lt. Col. Douglas Rosete, former deputy chief of the PC Training Command (Tracom), will be the new provincial commander of Davao del Sur, replacing Lt. Col. Jesus Magno who will be tansferred to a command in Luzon.

P/Col. [expansion unknown] Gregorio Labja took over the post of deputy regional director for operations which was vacated by Brig. Gen. Antonio Teves who, along with his police escort, was gunned down recently by New People's Army "sparrow" hit men here. P/Col. Amada Arciaga was named deputy regional director for administration, the post vacated by Labja. P/Col. Ludovico Jorque succeeded as deputy regional director for staff, the post previously held by Arciaga. Salimbangon relieved P/Maj. Antonio Tancinco as police chief of Gen. Santos City and designated P/Col. Jesus bartolome as his replacement.

Communist Leader in Southern Leyte Arrested

HK2209044590 Manila DWIZ Radio News 882 in Tagalog 0400 GMT 22 Sep 90

[Text] A Communist Party of the Philippines [CPP]-New People's Army [NPA] leader said to carry a 1,000 peso cash reward for his arrest [as heard] was arrested by intelligence agents in Cebu City. Armed Forces Spokesman Colonel Juanito Rimando identified the captured CPP-NPA leader as Wilfredo Naga alias Bert Tampa. Naga is believed to be head of the Southern Leyte revolutionary party committee and Southern Leyte fighting front. He is also secretary of the Southern Leyte provincial front commission and the southwest district commission.

Rimando said Naga was arrested by members of the Leyte PC [Philippine Constabulary] command, Cebu Metropolitan District command, and Intelligence Service of the AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] in a restaurant in Mandaue City, Cebu. According to Rimando, Naga will be charged with rebellion in the next few days.

Detained Communist Leaders Seek Bailable Charge

HK2709035690 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 27 Sep 90 p 7

[By Bert Castro, staffmember]

[Text] Two suspected top communist leaders yesterday asked the Supreme Court to compel government prosecutors to charge them with simple rebellion instead of the nonbailable charge of illegal possession of firearms in furtherance of rebellion. The petitioners, Rafael Baylosis and Benjamin de Vera, who are detained at the Camp Crame detention center, also asked the high tribunal to stop their trial at a Pasig Regional Trial Court.

Baylosis and De Vera, together with three others, have been charged with violation of PD [Presidential Decree] 1866 when they were arrested in 1988. Allegedly recovered from them were an AK 47 automatic rifle with nine rounds of ammunition and three fragmentation grenades.

Through their lawyers, the five suspected leaders of the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) and its military arm, the New People's Army (NPA), questioned the constitutionality of PD 1866 (illegal possession of firearms for rebellion purposes), saying it imposes a cruel, degrading and inhuman punishment, and violates several provisions of the new Constitution.

They accused the government prosecutors of intentionally charging them with violation of PD 1866 instead of a simple rebellion to deny them their constitutional right to bail.

They cited several Supreme Court decisions such as the Hernandez and Enrile rulings prohibiting the splitting or complexing of the common crimes to justify the imposition of a graver penalty. They said common crimes cannot be charged separately from the principal political offense.

In their petitions, Baylosis also asked the high court to set aside an order made by Pasig Trial Court Judge Apolonio Chavez's order denying his motion to dismiss the charges and subsequent motion for its reconsideration. Baylosis and De Vera were arrested by government operatives in San Juan on March 29, 1988 with Romulo Kintanar, Ma. Gloria Jopson- Kintanar and Marco Palo.

The petitioners accused the prosecution and the military of conspiring to prevent them from being released. Expected to follow suit if the court acts favorably to their petitions were political detainees such as the spouses Satur Ocampo and Carolina Malay-Ocampo.

Exploitation of Government Vulnerability Viewed

HK2609050390 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 26 Sep 90 p 4

[Editorial: "NPA Exploits Government's Vulnerability"]

[Text] The statement the other day by the New People's Army [NPA] to end the ceasefire with the government in the earthquake-ravaged areas and in Metro Manila represents a sudden shift towards a handline in the peace negotiations. The NPA chief, Romulo Kintanar, claimed that the oil price rise and violent police handling of demonstrations in protest against the United States military bases had undermined the peace process.

Whether or not Mr Kintanar's statement represents the decision of the entire Communist Party leadership or of just a militant faction cannot immediately be verified. But given that it was issued by Mr Kintanar, who is a hardliner, it is authoritative enough and should be taken seriously.

This should lead us to ask why there has been such a shift in position. Prior to the anouncement, the National Democratic Front [NDF], the umbrella organisation of leftist groups, had not encouraged a general strike in response to the oil price rise.

What seems likely is that the volatility of the political situation has given grounds to the NPA to conclude that there is no use to deal with a government that appears to become more fragile as the social unrest, partly fostered by the oil price rise and its economic and social fallout, heightens.

As pressure build up for a military attack on Iraq by the Western powers, benchmark crude prices in New York have reached $40 a barrel. The financially strapped Philippine economy is just unable to catch up with the oil spiral, increasing the vulnerability of the government to growing unrest.

It is this perception of vulnerability that seems to have caused the NPA to end the ceasfire, thereby stopping the early momentum towards peace negotiations. This perception is shared by the ultra-Right. As strikes and partial transport stoppage—albeit on a limited scale—continues, the military dissidents have intensified their own campaign to demonstrate that the government is not capable of responding to the crisis.

The NPA decision has nothing to do with police action on the protesters against the bases or the oil price rise. It has to do with the perception which tells the NPA that the goal of overthrowing the government through revolution is better served by fuelling unrest than by taking part in the peace process.

Put differently, the NPA has sniffed blood. It has been in the growing unrest an opportunity to promote a revolutionary situation. It does not matter whether the Communist Party is riven by deep ideological divisions. While Marxists debate intensely and bitterly, they are also pragmatists, and when they see an opportunity, they are not slow to switch tactics.

In the face of this switch in the NPA position and the intensification of the campaign of the ultra-Right to bring down the government, it remains unclear whether the government can respond quickly to the incendiary oil crisis. It is required to demonstrate that a democratic system can be resilient enough to cope with crisis and can summon the people's loyalty to constitutional democracy. Unfortunately, it has failed to demonstrate the competence that it can make democracy function. Not many people are willing to swear by an incompetent government even if it piously professes faith in democracy.

Ramos Claims RAM Adopting Communist Strategies

HK2709065990 Manila DIYARYO FILIPINO in Tagalog 27 Sep 90 pp 1, 7

[By C. Manansala, M. Devaras, N. Alcala, and R. Salvacion]

[Excerpts] The Reform the Armed Forces Movement [RAM] and its political arm, the Young Officers Union [YOU], have formed people's organizations, and are using similar tactics to those being employed by the communist movement, which strengthens the suspicion by some that there is an ongoing conspiracy between the left-wing and right-wing forces.

According to Secretary Fidel Ramos of the Department of National Defense [DND], a former Communist Party of the Philippines [CPP] leader, Nilo Tayag, now heads and helps the rebel soldiers in forming these organizations.

In his investigation on the new movements by RAM, Ramos noted the similarity of strategies adopted by the RAM with those of the Nationalist Youth, CPP's arm for youth, strategies used during the 1960's and 1970's.

"The YOU's progress, based on what we see and on our evaluation of seized documents, is that they are trying to picture themselves as the pillar of the youth and the military corps," Ramos said. He said, "They are trying to enter campuses and integrate themselves with workers and other sectors to prove that they are dedicated to the new nationalism they have allegedly discovered."

"The similarity is striking," commented Ramos on the strategies being used by the rightists with those used by the CPP when they were just starting. He said that the rebels want to adopt the CPP-NPA tactics and strategies which successfully garnered them 300 members in 1970 to almost 23,000 in the mid-1980's.

He said the participation of Tayag in the rightist forces is clear "as part of the YOU's think tank. Even the jargon used by Tayag in the 1960's and 1970's is apparent in statements issued by the YOU." [passage omitted]

Meanwhile, reports of a new coup have surfaced again following the oil price increase. The two bloody coups—August 1987 and December 1989—were launched by the rebel soldiers after oil price increases.

"From my viewpoint, they are still planning. They have learned from their mistakes, and their operation is getting better with time," said retired Brigadier General Jose Almonte. In this connection, Makati Mayor Jejomar Binay announced yesterday the formation of a sophisticated communication system by the Metro Manila Peace and Order Council. According to him, the system will help in alerting and mobilizing a large number of residents in times of a coup or calamity.

Noble Says RAM-Ramos Alliance 'Possible'

HK2209073190 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 22 Sep 90 p 6

[Report by Cynthia de Leon]

[Text] Esperanza, Agusan del Sur—A former ranking officer who claimed to be rebel Col. Alexander Noble's chief of staff said an alliance between the outlawed Rebolusyonaryong Alyansang Makabayan (RAM) [Nationalist Revolutionary Alliance] and Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos is possible.

"Yes, why not. As long as our objectives will coincide. We will accommodate all groups that are working for the common objective of coming up with a better Philippines," said the officer who requested anonymity. He issued the statement when asked about the possibility of their joining forces with other groups, including the Ramos group, against the administration. He denied their group maintains tieups with foreign groups but admitted that they regularly receive financial and arms support from Luzon and Mindanao sources.

He confirmed information obtained by this reporter from another source that Noble recently received light anti-tank weapons (LAW) and air-to-ground missiles. The other informant said Noble received 90 recoilless rifles and 15,000 rounds each of ammunition for M-16 and M-14 rifles and M-60 light machineguns. But the officer, who said he joined Noble in Salug only last March, said the rebel colonel has not used the weapons against government troops pursuing him.

He said Noble's forces has not suffered any causualty. "No casualties as of now not even one, not even wounded." The six persons reportedly killed at Sitio Naabat, Salug, early this month were actually seven: a farmer, his three sons and three visitors who were having lunch in their house when strafed by soldiers, he said.

The government has suffered 26 killed and 53 wounded as of last week, he said, citing "official and confidential military reports."

Meanwhile, the officer also gave this reporter a letter from Noble refuting reports that some Higaonon tribesmen had appealed for Noble's surrender. Noble said he never intended to drag down the tribe "to save my predicament, much less use them as a shield." He added he did not ask them to evacuate but "insistently advised them to stay foot, being beyond harm's way as peaceful citizens under a democratic government." The tribesmen have chosen to "uphold the honor and prestige of the daut," and he in turn will "stick with them come hell or high water," said Noble whose adoptive name is Datu Kalauman.

Radio Commentator Reads Honasan's Open Letter

HK2709090190 Quezon City DZEC Eagle Broadcasting Corporation Radio in Tagalog 1000 GMT 26 Sep 90

[Statement by Gregorio Honasan, leader of the Reform the Armed Forces Movement, read by Ruben Ilagan on his program "Listen to Ruben Ilagan"—in English; italicized portion in Tagalog]

[Text] Our beloved countrymen, Mrs Aquino is the problem. She is the root cause of all our basic national problems like worsening poverty and hunger.

Today in the twilight of her reign, Mrs Aquino is either feared or hated, according to Ninez Cacho-Olivarez in her column "Pinch of Salt", PHILIPPINE DAILY

INQUIRER, 23 September 1990. She has become isolated and is no longer in control of events, according to Amando Doronila in his column "Analysis", MANILA CHRONICLE, 28 August 1990.

The multisectoral and multipartisan citizens' crisis council headed by Vice President Salvador Laurel, provides the alternative national leadership when Aquino and her government are unable to function as such, according to Petronilo Daroy in his "Opinion", MANILA STANDARD, 17 September 1990.

The perception among the bishops that the president seems unaware of the pressing problems of the ordinary people and that they, the bishops, are losing confidence in President Aquino's capability to run the government, according to Father Francisco Silva, two-time president of the Federation of Electric Cooperatives of the Philippines, PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER, 23 September 1990.

In the word of Bishop Bacani, a government that cannot control garbage cannot control government. For the above reasons, Aquino and her army, the yellow army, have lost the battle for the hearts and minds of the public, according to Miss Olivarez in her column on 26 August 1990.

The pulse and feelings of the people based on the grievances of the poor citizens aired over the radios tell that Aquino has become indifferent and unsympathetic. She manages to wear a smile in the face of the worsening garbage problem. The nation appealed to her not to increase the oil price, what they got was a stab in their backs. The oil price was increased without sufficient public hearing and due process.

That is why Secretary Ramos said the chief of state is sinking because it is leaking and surrounded by crocodiles and sharks. Rest assured, however, that I will not sink with the ship, I will be with the suffering majority in case of coup, obviously referring to peaceful, democratic, constitutional rescue or bloodless coup.

Secretary Ramos' revealing statement was echoed by the equally meaningful statement of Major General Biazon on television. The same general who was accused of saying: I have no choice but to defend a stupid Constitution and stupid leadership. Please do refer to MANILA TIMES and MANILA BULLETIN of 28 August 1990.

No wonder, it was reported in the SUNDAY TIMES and PHILIPPINE JOURNAL 1 September 1990, that a general who played a key role in the defense against the RAM in December which almost toppled the Aquino government, had already been won over by the rebels. We confirm this.

Not only that, as reported by the SUNDAY TIMES and PHILIPPINE JOURNAL, the RAM loyalist soldiers and the people have substantially infiltrated the Marines and Air Force as well as other major services. In view of the foregoing, the peaceful and democratic constitutional rescue of the Republic from a vindictive, corrupt and incompetent leadership has been set in motion and the same is now in place.

As Antonio Abaya observed in his column: "On the Other Hand", THE MANILA CHRONICLE, 3 September 1990, the bloodless coup will succeed.

The only essential elements of the constitutional rescue still to be achieved shortly for the intending and inevitable resignation of Mrs Aquino, dubbed by some of the citizenry as the salot [plague] of the nation, are: One, the official announcement of withdrawal of support from the reign of greed, lust and terror by the Reformist Nationalist Soldiers of the People as a matter of consititutional duty; Second, constitutional succession; and third, people's physical and public display of sovereign power in a peaceful manner.

When this happens, it is expected that the U.S. Marines will take Mrs Aquino into custody in Clark Air Base for her safety and that preempts any desperate protest of yellow army strugglers and mercenaries, although these toy soldiers have been infiltrated through the peaceful, democratic, and constitutional rescue or bloodless coup through justice, freedom and democracy shall be preserved.

Evil prevails because good men do nothing. Fraternally Yours, Colonel Gregorio Honasan for the movement. 9/23/90.

New Oil Price Hike Takes Effect; Senate Reacts

HK2109114390 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 20 Sep 90

[Excerpts] Premium gasoline will now cost P [peso] 8.87 per liter from P7.06 per liter, or an additional of P1.81. Regular gasoline, will now cost P8.50 per liter from P6.79; kerosene and diesel, from P4.96 per liter to P6.24 per liter. These new prices will take effect at six o'clock tonight. Meanwhile, here is a report by Cesar Chavez:

[Begin recording] [Chavez] Senator Ernesto Maceda will sue the Energy Regulatory Board [ERB] for not undertaking due process prior to its announcement of price increase on petroleum products. According to Maceda's spokesman Attorney Jimmy Policarpio, the senator is now preparing the protest to take to court. He said that the ERB did not listen to petitions against the increase filed by various sectors, including Senator Ernesto Maceda. [passage omitted] Meanwhile, here is the reaction of Senator Wigberto Tanada:

[Tanada] I did not expect that today there would be an order like that. I was expecting that the hearing would still continue so that the petition by various sectors could be heard first before they issued an order increasing the price of oil. So, I was surprised by this provisional order. I wish they had delayed the issuance of this order. They should have listened thoroughly to the people. I am concerned that this action may result in protest actions by our fellow countrymen. [end recording]

Aquino Dismisses Threats

HK2109114190 Manila Radio Veritas in Tagalog 0900 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Press statement by President Corazon Aquino as read by Press Secretary Tomas Gomez III from Malacanang Palace—live or recorded in English]

[Text] One thing that must be understood by everyone is the fact that oil prices have increased. Our present prices were set when oil prices were less than 15 dollars per barrel. The present price is now 33 dollars per barrel. The government, specifically the Energy Regulatory Board, must therefore address the difficult but crucial issue of oil price increase. Or we would otherwise be faced with the more difficult problem of not having enough oil supply since oil will have to be imported at over 30 dollars per barrel and sold at 15 dollars per barrel.

If the government absorbs the difference, the taxpayers of this country would have to bear the burden of paying for the low prices of today. Above all, one of the things that we must do is conserve energy by using less fuel and by using energy more efficiently.

While it is true that certain segments may agitate the citizenry against the government, the president does not believe that Filipinos will respond positively to them. At the same time, the government is not powerless to resist these threats of disorderly acts.

President Aquino is directing the Department of Trade and Industry to monitor prices of basic commodity as part of the effort to ensure adequate supply of these commodities at the range of reasonable prices during these critical times.

Two KMU 'High-Ranking' Officials Killed

HK2709100190 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Excerpts] Here is a report by Bert Silva about a shooting incident:

[Begin recording] [Silva] Two high-ranking officials of the KMU [1 May Movement] and NAFLU [National Alliance of Free Labor Unions] were shot and killed on the spot by the officer in charge [OIC] of the Jesca Security Agency inside the Los Textile Company, Veterans Road, Western Bicutan, Taguig.

Workers announced that labor unrest will be held at the FTI [Food Terminal Incorporated] and Veterans Industrial Complex to protest the slaying of the two KMU-NAFLU officials.

The shooting by the OIC security guard occurred during the union's certification of election at about 0945 this morning inside the Los Textile, a Taiwanese firm located at the Veterans Road, Western Bicutan. Taguig police identified the suspect as Reynaldo Arselan, while the victims were identified as Sergio Atilano, Philacor-NAFLU vice president; and Edwin Fernandez, KMU official organizer and representative. Here is an interview with a worker who witnessed the shooting:

[Worker] That was intentional. Our leaders were hopeless, could not fight back at all. They were only fighting for our rights as laborers.

[Silva] They were shot in which part of their bodies?

[Worker] They were shot in the head. They were our organizers and only helping us.

[Silva] What are their names.

[Worker] Edwin Fernandez and Jojo Atilano.

[Silva] Where are the bodies and the security guard now.

[Worker] The bodies were brought to Mandaluyong. We don't know where the security guard was taken. He was picked up by the police.

[Silva] Meanwhile, in Southern Tagalog, workers threatened to paralyze Friday, tomorrow, all factories, through a work stoppage by workers affiliated with PAMANTIK [Unity of Workers in the Southern Tagalog]-KMU in support of the national strike set for tomorrow.

In a report, the thousands of laborers say that they will be supported by the farming and fishing sector, and militant students from the League of Filipino Students. The cause-oriented groups will hold separate demonstrations at the Calamba-Laguna crossing and Alabang-Muntinlupa crossing; Zapote- Cavite and Talaba-Bacoor-Cavite crossings.

The supporters of the national strike from the Southern Tagalog are the Olalia, Almapila, Alab, Ubod, Almada, Pumalag, IBN, FSM, and DFA [expansions unknown]—all affiliates of PAMANTIK-KMU.

Meanwhile, thousands of anti-disturbance teams are presently undergoing training at the Camp Vicente Lim, Western Laguna and in Camp Olivas, San Fernando, Pampanga, in preparation for the national strike in Metro Manila tomorrow. [end recording]

In related news, here is an interview with spokesman of the KMU, Nick Elman regarding the killing of their members:

[Begin recording] [Reporter] May we know the reaction of the KMU leadership in relation to the killing of your two officials.

[Elman] Yes, the incident this morning is very sad. Two of the KMU officials were killed allegedly by a security officer at the Los Textile Mills, FTI, Taguig. We are condemning the slaying. In fact, this seems to maintain a pattern, in that a leder was also killed in Laguna who is also in the NAFLU.

This Edwin Fernandez is the NAFLU's vice president. NAFLU is the biggest federation of workers in the Philippines. He was formerly the president of the Philacor Labor Union.

Jojo Atilano was previously the president of Rubber World, whose union's office was raided last Tuesday [25 September] where 38 officers and workers were arrested. So, what we can see is a pattern of an intensifying repression on the ranks of workers. We know that this has connections with the workers' militant movement against the oil price increase and the military bases talks issue. This is a suppression of the militant actions by the workers.

Maybe tomorrow or tonight, all leaders in Metro Manila will hold a meeting and perhaps tomorrow, a walkout by workers in all factories may be considered in order to condemn the slaying of our colleagues at the Los Textiles. [passage omitted]

[Reporter] How would this affect the already scheduled widespread protest actions by KMU tomorrow.

[Elman] It will intensify the protest movement tomorrow. In fact this protest movement is focused on the oil price increase and the intervention by the American imperialists in our country. But we will add the issue of trade union repression, in that there is a rampant disregard of the workers' rights by this government. And we will also start our wage campaign for an additional 38 pesos to the minimum wage or an across-the-board increase.

From our viewpoint, this is one concerted effort to repress the workers' struggle to demand additional wages. But we will not be intimidated by these atrocities done to us or against the militant groups under the KMU. [passage omitted]

Enrile Challenges Aquino To Hold Snap Election

HK2709104990 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Report by Cesar Chavez from the Senate]

[Text] Senate Minority Floor Leader Juan Ponce Enrile challenged President Aquino today to hold immediate elections to prove his belief that Mrs. Aquino no longer has any popularity nor the support of the people. During a speech to the Rotary Club of Manila at the Manila Hotel, where at the same time Mrs. Aquino was in the adjoining room talking to some publishers, Enrile said that Mrs. Aquino would be the easiest to overwhelm or beat in the presidential elections if she would run in 1992. Enrile further added that if he were to win as president in 1992, he would investigate relatives of Mrs. Aquino whom he thought violated the law and committed (?graft) while a member of their family was in power.

[Begin Enrile recording in English] On the assumption that Enrile will be in Malacanang in 1992, he will go to Mrs. Aquino and say, well, you can stay in the country. You can be sure that nobody will bother you and your family and your friends, and your relatives. But of course, those who have violated the laws, if they have committed any graft, then they have to be challenged and let them be investigated. If there is any case against them, let them defend themselves in court. [end recording]

LDP To Become 'More Independent' of Malacanang

HK1409034590 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 14 Sep 90 p 7

[By Rolando Pascual]

[Text] The ruling Laban ng Demokratikong Pilipino (LDP) [Struggle of Philippine Democrats] will adopt a "more independent" stance from Malacanang in its second annual party convention starting today, according to Speaker Ramon Mitra.

"We will continue supporting President Aquino but the party would start to think on its own," Mitra said. "We will take adverse, negative position on certain issues. Our support for the President would be more qualified."

The speaker also said there would be no major changes in the party leadership with Sen [Senator] Neptali Gonzales had been agreeing to remain as LDP presidents. [sentence as published]

The decision was finalized late last night in a meeting at the Philippine Plaza between Mitra, Gonzales and party secretary-general and presidential brother Rep [Representative] Jose "Peping" Cojuangco Jr (Tarlac).

House Majority Leader Francisco Sumulong (Rizal) said workshops in the two-day convention would dwell on three issues: the American bases, the Kabisig [Partnership] and debt relief.

On Saturday, the convention is to come out with resolutions and induct its new set of officers.

Sumulong, an uncle of the President, said that while the party "would not immediately endorse the Kabisig," it could be a matter that "could be discussed on a more sober atmosphere."

Mitra said, "there will be a review of the relationship between the Executive and Legislative branches of government."

Expected to attend the convention are the party's 2,500 delegates representing the country's electoral districts. "It would be a celebration of the party's two years," Mitra said, dismissing remarks of some key party leaders that "there would be no surprised made in the convention."

Mrs Aquino would deliver her message before the party delegates on Saturday afternoon.

At present, 158, or nearly 79%, of the 202 House members belong to the LDP.

Columnist Views Ramos' Plan for 1992 Polls

HK2709035090 Manila BUSINESS WORLD in English 27 Sep 90 p 4

["My Cup of Tea" column by Ninez Cacho-Olivarez: "Ramos the anointed?"]

[Text] Like Salvador Laurel, Ramon Mitra and Jovito Salonga, Fidel Ramos has more than once expressed his interest in running for the presidency. The interest is, of course, couched in ambiguous language, since it is still too early for anyone—including Ramos—to declare his candidacy. But interested they all are.

Of all presidential aspirants, however, it is only Ramos who is, at the moment, bereft of a political party or organization. Mitra has the LDP [Struggle of Philippine Democrats] to back his candidacy. Salonga has the LP [Liberal Party] while Laurel and Juan Ponce Enrile have the NP [Nationalista Party]. Even Corazon Aquino had, in 1986, the UNIDO [United Nationalist Democratic Organization] as her political party. How then does Ramos expect to run and win in a presidential election?

It is highly doubted that Mitra or Salonga would step aside to give way to a guest candidate like Ramos. Neither will the NP be expected to do it. Will Ramos then make history by running and winning as an independent?

It has been said that Ramos's political machinery is in his supporters in the armed forces and the peace and order councils. But even this would be no match to the existing political machineries of the LDP, LP, and NP, all of which are geared to deliver the votes. Peace and order councils and other NGOs [Non Governmental Organizations] certainly do not have the election experience that ward leaders and mayors have acquired through the years.

The other problem Ramos has is the fact that he can't make a move towards the presidency as long as he remains a defense secretary and as long as Corazon Aquino continues to play coy with her election plans. On the other hand, if Ramos bolts, say, even a year before elections, he is certain to lose whatever influence he holds over the armed forces or whatever grip he has on the peace and order councils. But why give up his job as defense secretary when he and his group continue to keep Corazon Aquino under their thumb?

Juan Ponce Enrile, then defense minister, was berated by the press for speaking out publicly against certain presidential pronouncements. Ramos does the same, yet Aquino does not dare fire him. Neither has the press berated Ramos for conduct unbecoming of an Aquino Cabinet official. U.S. Chief of Staff Dugan was promptly fired for saying publicly what everyone suspected. But in Ramos's case, he can call the administration a directionless ship full of holes and get away with it. There was not even a peep of protest from Aquino.

Is Ramos, as charged by fugitive excolonel Greg Honasan, really calling the shots in Malacanang? It certainly appears to be the case, although it is doubted that Ramos does this, all by his lonesome. Ramos has become a most powerful defense minister under the Aquino regime. No, one—not even Ramon Magsaysay—enjoyed the same powers Ramos enjoys today. And because Aquino is week, Ramos and his group have been able to utilize that power to the fullest.

Other presidents would have canned Ramos and De Villa for having been caught thoroughly unprepared for the December coup. It was unforgivable. Not only was there a massive breakdown in intelligence but also a failure of the military leadership to order troops to fight the rebels. Most soldiers chose to fence-sit on the first day of the rebellion. But Aquino, instead of firing Ramos and De Villa, chose to prise the duo for their loyalty to the constitutional government.

Going by her past actions, it is therefore likely for Aquino to anoint Ramos as her successor and even campaign for him, if she doesn't run for reelection.

Anointing Ramos could also be Aquino's way of ensuring that no Ramos-led coup occurs during her reign. Her biggest fear, after all, is to be toppled through a coup d'etat. She wants to be remembered in history as the president who not only restored democracy but also preserved it by surviving numerous coup attempts, four of which never occurred.

With a little maneuvering, Kabisig [partnership] could have become the very political machinery needed by Ramos, as an anointed of Aquino. Mayors, governors and NGOs were being recruited by Kabisig. Even the armed forces, if one recalls, was readily being offered by Ramos and his supporters as members. Had Kabisig taken off as evisioned, and had Ramos and the armed forces been identified with Kabisig, the Aquino political organization would have been a match for the existing political parties.

Unfortunately for Ramos, Kabisig was botched up by Aquino and her adviers. But he can still wait and be anointed by Aquino, although these days, an Aquino endorsement means nothing. Ramos has to make a move soon either way, if he his eyes set on the top political post.

Assistance Assured for Cordillera Residents

HK1409123490 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 14 Sep 90

[Text] The military has assured residents of the Cordillera region that they have done everything to prevent the further escalation of tribal wars between two tribes in Tinglayan, Kalinga-Apayao. The Cordillera Regional

Command [CRECOM] reported that 11 people have been killed in tribal wars between residents of Barangay Ambato and (Bangla-ad) which began last 5 September.

According to CRECOM, military authorities are closely monitoring an agreement made between the two tribes which was made formal through Lieutenant Colonel Rodrigo Licudine of the provincial command and provincial Governor Lawrence (Wacnang). CRECOM further added that the military was aware of the possibilty that several areas may be drawn into the war. It has been a habit of the warring tribes to take their battles outside their respective communities, and the military is undertaking measures to avoid such an occurrence, especially in Baguio where classes are to start on 17 September.

Military, Media Sign Accord on Press Freedom

HK1409122890 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 14 Sep 90

[Text] An agreement was formally signed this morning by two sectors concerned with the state of the press in the country to uphold the rights and objectives of the members of the media and the military. NPC [National Press Club] President Butch Castillo, DND [Department of National Defense] Chief Fidel Ramos, and acting Armed Forces of the Philippines [AFP] Chief of Staff Major General Rodolfo Biazon reached an agreement on matters concerning the freedom of press at the Army-Navy Club on T.M. Kalaw Street. The military must verify all information received before a media person can be arrested.

The agreement was concluded in connection with the abduction of a female reporter, Vilma Manzo, who was held by Air Force men and later released after charges that Manzo is a communist agent were dispelled. [passage indistinct]

Agricultural Growth in 1st Half of 1990 Reported

HK1209133290 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 11 Sep 90 p 13

[By Dave Ll. Llorito]

[Text] Massive production setbacks due to the drought explains the lackluster performance of the agricultural sector in the first half of this year.

The growth rate of the agricultural sector in the first half of this year was only .17% as compared to 4.25% in the same period last year. Value of agricultural production at constant prices have dipped to 4.69%. In the same period last year, this subsector posted a 2.59% real growth rate.

According to the Bureau of Agricultural Statistics (BAS) total volume of agricultural production have decreased by 5.58% from 32.1 million metric tons (MT) in January to June last year to only 30.3 million MT in the same months this year.

Major agricultural crops such as fibers, palay, sugarcane, and corn registered the highest production shortfalls.

Production of fiber crops which includes ramie, salago and jute declined by 22.2%. Palay, corn sugarcane and coffee were down by 11.35%, 9.35%, 9.3% and 7.69%, respectively. These crops account for about half of the country's agricultural output.

Other crops such as pineapple, mango, tobacco, abaca, peanut, cassava, and sweet potato declined by an average of about 3.5%.

In palay production, all but two regions—Bicol and Eastern Visayas—suffered production decline ranging from .9% to a high of 38.%. Hardest hit regions which suffered serious setbacks were Western Visayas (38%), Western Mindanao (29%), and Southern Tagalog (26%).

"Close to 20% decline (in palay production) was recorded in Central Visayas (19%); Central Mindanao (17%), and Cagayan Valley (16%).

All the regions attributed the poor crop performance in their areas either to the drop in area harvested or yield per hectare or both," a BAS situation report stated.

In corn production, all the regions in Visayas and Mindanao except for EAstern Visayas reported production shortfalls ranging from 4.3% in Southern Mindanao to 41.7% in Western Visayas. This resulted to a 9.3% decline in corn output from 1.17 million MT in the first half of 89 to 1.08 million MT in the first half of 1990. Over-all, total area harvested decreased by 6.7% and yield per hectare declined 3.1%.

Corn production decline could have been severe had it not [been] for the gains of the Luzon regions. Production increments were reported in Ilogos (35.6%), Central Luzon (36.2%), Bicol (25.8%) and Eastern Visayas (4%).

It will some more time before palay production could pick up this year. BAS estimates that palay output in the third quarter would be 1.33 MT, about 3.3% short of the 1989 record. This is due to the insufficiency of water supply. BAS projects that total harvests area would decline by 5.9% as most regions expects smaller hectarage.

In fact Cagayan Valley foresees the biggest area cutback at 43.3% "due to the delayed release of water by National Irrigation Administration in Isabela."

Corn production, however, is expected to recover immediately in the third quarter. BAS projects that corn production would reach 2.2 million MT. This is 15.5% higher than last year's estimate.

Northern and Southern Mindanao are expected to be good performers as probable harvest areas are expected to shoot up 84.2% and 67.8%, respectively.

Thailand

Chatchai Proposes Vientiane for SNC Meeting

BK2709021690 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 27 Sep 90 pp 1, 3

[Excerpt] As the warring Cambodian factions plunged into a new round of wrangling yesterday, Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan said Vientiane would be the most appropriate venue for the next meeting of the Supreme National Council [SNC].

The squabbling by the rival Cambodian parties over the composition of the council has aborted the possibility that peace talks would resume in Bangkok at the end of this week as earlier expected. "Let them organise their own meeting," Gen [General] Chatchai said. The premier added that so far he had not been contacted by any factions to host another meeting here.

Pressed on reports that Phnom Penh premier Hun Sen had extended a request for another meeting in Bangkok, Gen Chatchai said, "Not yet." Asked if he would allow another meeting here, he said, "The Cambodian factions should reach an agreement in writing among themselves first, then they can come to Thailand anytime."

He also said he had not yet seen in writing an agreement supposedly reached among the Cambodian factions allowing for both the resistance and Phnom Penh to hold seven seats each in the SNC. "I will not allow them to meet here until I see that agreement in writing," he said.

Asked if he knew the factors which led to the collapse of the first meeting of the SNC Gen Chatchai told reporters to go ask the Cambodian factions. "But let us not concern ourselves with the Cambodians so much. We should stop now, whether they can agree or not, because we have helped them a lot already. Let us turn to our bread and butter issues," he said.

Asked if his statement meant he was no longer interested in the Cambodian issue, Gen Chatchai said, "I'm still interested but I have the duty to take care of the bread and butter issues of the people and to ensure they earn enough." Asked how much time he was giving the Cambodians, he replied: "No more."

The Phnom Penh government and the resistance coalition were again locked in contention yesterday over equal footing within the interim authority, which is a key element to a United Natoins Security Council peace plan for Cambodia. As the dispute intensified, Secretary for Foreign Affairs M.R. Kasemsamoson Kasemsi and Director-General Sarot Chawanawirot of the ASEAN Department yesterday met with diplomats of ASEAN, the US, the Soviet Union, China, Britain, and France, the five permanent members of the UN Security Council.

M.R. Kasemsamoson yesterday emphasised that Prince Sihanouk must be an integral part of the Cambodian peace process. The Prince's role has remained the bone of contention in the ongoing struggle between Phnom Penh and the resistance.

According to Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan's son and adviser Kraisak Chunhawan, the Foreign Ministry is still coordinating with the parties concerned for a possible resumption of the SNC session. Another Premier's adviser Phansak Winyarat said Thailand was in no rush to host the round.

The first SNC session in Bangkok broke down last week as the two parties failed to agree on the composition of the council and the role of Prince Norodom Sihanouk. [passage omitted]

Armed Forces Spokesman on Border Situation

BK2609151890 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1230 GMT 26 Sep 90

[Text] At the Royal Thai Air Force Headquarters this morning, Lieutenant General Narudon Detpradiyut, director of the Information Office of the Supreme Command Headquarters, held a news conference on the current border situation, which comes under the purview of the Royal Thai Army, Royal Thai Navy, and Royal Thai Air Force.

Regarding the Thai-Cambodian border situation, the Army speculated that all Cambodian factions are closely following up on the political developments related to the outcome of the meeting of the Cambodian Supreme National Council [SNC], which they believe may result in a change in the combat situation in Cambodia.

On the Thai-Lao border, Lao soldiers are conducting a survey presumably in order to collect information for future negotiations with their Thai counterparts.

As for the Navy's responsibility, the ongoing problem is the continuing illegal entry of Vietnamese boat people.

The Air Force has carried out its tasks on air safety measures for the country. It also provides aircraft to support their majesties' activities, voluntary medical units under the patronage of the princess mother, and aid to the Royal Project [agricultural development project in northern provinces], concluded the Armed Forces spokesman.

Chatchai Supports Montri, Telephone Expansion

BK2209090690 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 22 Sep 90 p 1

[Text] Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan and Social Action Party [SAP] leader M.R. Khukrit Pramot yesterday threw support behind Communications Minister Montri Phongphanit over the 150-billion-baht telephone expansion project.

Gen [General] Chatchai's and M.R. Khukrit's reaction came after two senior Chat Thai ministers threatened to oppose the telephone project charging Mr Montri of hastily submitting it into the Cabinet, thus ridding its members of a chance to study it. Gen Chatchai when asked for his comments on the move by key Chat Thai members to oppose the project said that the Telephone Organisation of Thailand [TOT] had already made the decision on the issue and the Government could not interfere with it.

Announcing that he believed Mr Montri, M.R. Khukrit said he would resign if it turned out that the minister told him a lie about the project.

Mr Montri on Tuesday tabled the TOT decision to award a Thai-British joint venture—the C.P. Telecom Co—a contract to install three million telephone numbers nationwide.

Deputy Permanent Secretary for Communications Mahidon Chantrangkun who chaired a TOT selection committee said yesterday at a press conference TOT was empowered by its law to hire a private firm to undertake telephone project under an approval of the Communications minister. He said that the Cabinet had given its approval for the telephone expansion project and Mr Montri had forwarded the TOT's decision to choose the Thai-British firm to inform it about the progress and for it to publicise the decision. TOT was required by law to seek a Cabinet approval if it wanted to expand telephone network, reduce its capital, seek a loan exceeding three million baht, sell its immovable property or increase telephone fees, he said.

Gen Chatchai said that TOT was empowered by its own law to choose a firm to undertake the telephone projects. The Government could take a second look at the proposal but it would not be able to do anything, he said.

M.R. Khukrit said that he had inquired of Mr Montri about the TOT's proposal out of his concern that it involved a huge sum of money after learning about it. Mr Montri, he said, had explained to him about the legal aspects of the project and that the TOT had a power to select a company to invest in telephone projects. The law also empowered the Communications minister to oversee the telephone work without having to seek Cabinet approval.

What Mr Montri had reported to the Cabinet was a decision which had already been made by the TOT and the minister had no power to change it. "Mr Montri had informed the Cabinet to acknowledge about the progress. It is a matter of courtesy," M.R. Khukrit said. He said that Chat Thai deputy leader Sano Thianthong and Secretary General Banhan Sinpa-acha might have understood that the proposal was similar to other proposals which needed Cabinet approvals and, therefore, expressed his opposition to it.

TOT had followed the legal steps in making the decision.

The opposition was raised because the project involved a huge sum of money and because some people might not be aware of the actual process of the project. "I believe him (Mr Montri). If I don't believe him then who else can I believe in? "I will ask him when he returns (from Europe). If it turns out that the Communications minister and the TOT have no power to make a decision on the project, it means that he has lied to me. "If this is the case, then I will have to resign from SAP. I cannot work with a liar," M.R. Khukrit said.

Deputy Communications Minister Nikhom Saencharoen said that Mr Montri had telephoned him on Thursday night from Finland to inquire about the issue. Mr Montri, who is Social Action Party secretary-general, left immediately for Europe after forwarding the mammoth telephone project to the Cabinet for its acknowledgment on Tuesday. Mr Nikhom said that Mr Montri during the telephone conversation with him on Thursday night urged that SAP members refrain from making counter comments against Mr Banhan and Mr Sano. He said that he had been assigned by Mr Montri to provide an explanation to the Cabinet meeting next week should the issue be raised for debate by any of the members. Mr Nikhom said he was ready to defend the ministry's proposal.

SAP deputy leader and Deputy Prime Minister Thongyot Chittawira explained yesterday that the telephone proposal had been drawn according to the TOT law as part of a joint telephone investment already approved by the Council of Economic Ministers.

The project had been forwarded to the Cabinet on Tuesday for its acknowledgment but no ministers raised it for discussion. If any of the ministers felt that they had not given a chance to debate on it, then they still could do that at next meeting, Mr Thongyot said. "If they disagree with it, then they can oppose it in the Cabinet," Mr Thongyot said.

Asked by reporters for his comments about the criticism levelled against each other by coalition leaders, Mr Thongyot said that he would not want to comment on it because it could cause the problem to expand.

Vietnam

Commentary on SNC Participation in UN Session

BK2609134390 Hanoi International Service in English 1000 GMT 26 Sep 90

[Station commentary]

[Text] The 45th session of the UN General Assembly was held a week ago, but the seat of the Cambodian delegation is still left vacant. Will the Camodian delegation, in the coming days, attend the session together with other countries to discuss burning issues in the world at present? Following is our radio comment on this issue:

In fact, the Phnom Penh government, other Cambodian sides, and many other countries did not want the Cambodian delegation to be absent at this session. They all share the desire that the Supreme National Council

[SNC] would send a delegation to the 45th UN session. For this reason, the first session of the SNC was prepared and quickly organized in Thailand, which made great contributions to the organization of the first and important meeting of the SNC.

The former embassy of Cambodia in Bangkok became the venue for this meeting. Thai Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan even asked Thai officials to be well prepared to see that SNC members will arrive in Bangkok.

It is regrettable that the very first minute of the meeting was full of ups and downs as there appeared differences among members of the SNC. They disputed about the members of the SNC delegation to the UN General Assembly. In addition, Prince Sihanouk insisted that he should be the 13th member of the SNC and president of the SNC in spite of the fact that he had refused to attend the Jakarta informal meeting of Cambodian sides to set up the SNC with an excuse of poor health.

The representative of the Phnom Penh government always shows its goodwill and persuades the other Cambodian sides to stop arguing. Moreover, to achieve a concrete result of the first session of the SNC, Chairman Hun Sen agreed to accept Prince Sihanouk to be the president of the SNC, but he must be one of the 12 members of the organization, not the 13th. Hun Sen held that if Sihanouk were the 13th member, it would be unfair to the State of Cambodia and it ran counter to the decision of the Jakarta informal meeting on the SNC, which it stated that the SNC comprised 12 members.

Nevertheless, to show his flexibility, Chairman Hun Sen proposed that if Sihanouk insisted on his request that he wanted to be the 13th, the Phnom Penh government would send one more delegate to the SNC. And, so, the total number of SNC members would be 14. This was a reasonable proposal. It took into consideration of both Sihanouk's request and the fairness to the State of Cambodia.

Other Cambodian sides and Prince Sihanouk refused the endurance and goodwill of Chairman Hun Sen. It is clear that every concession has its limit. Chairman Hun Sen could do nothing else and any further concession would run counter to the Cambodian people's will.

What should be has already happened. The first session of the SNC wrapped up but failed to send a delegation to 45th session of the UN General Assembly. The responsibility did not rest on the State of Cambodia. In this situation, Chairman Hun Sen clearly declared that he was ready to attend the second meeting of the SNC, if Prince Sihanouk changed his mind.

Radio Beijing had reported that Prince Sihanouk accepted Chairman Hun Sen's proposal that the Phnom Penh government has one more seat at the SNC so that he would be the 13th member and president of the SNC. He also called for an early convening of the second meeting of the SNC in Bangkok. After he was informed, the Thai head of state declared his readiness to prepare the second meeting.

What people are waiting for now is that Prince Sihanouk must make an official statement on this issue and show his practical deeds in implementing his statement.

For his part, Chairman Hun Sen has sent a letter to the UN general secretary, requesting him to invite the SNC members to participate in the current session of the UN General Assembly. Hun Sen added that the participation of the SNC at the 45th session of the UN was to show at least one urgent and primordial question in conformity with the documents of permanent members of the Security Council and with the Jakarta joint communique.

If Chairman Hun Sen's request is accepted, the Cambodian delegation will be present at the 45th session of the UN General Assembly in the coming days.

NHAN DAN on Cambodia Since Troop Pullout

BK2709054090 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 26 Sep 90

[Article by Duy Thinh in 26 September NHAN DAN: "A Year Full of Ordeals and Successes for the Cambodian People"]

[Text] This day last year—26 September 1989—the last Vietnamese volunteer soldier left Cambodia for home upon fulfilling his noble internationalist duty. This event demonstrated the magnificent goodwill of Vietnam and the State of Cambodia in the settlement of the Cambodian issue and also marked the constant growth of the State of Cambodia.

The past year was a great test for the Cambodian army and people. They had to shoulder the tasks of defending and building the country by themselves. However, by uniting under the banner of the People's Revolutionary Party, the Cambodian army and people were able to overcome numerous difficulties and obstacles and smash all the perfidious schemes of the enemy, thus continuing to advance to new achievements.

The total withdrawal of the Vietnamese volunteer army from Cambodia has created favorable conditions for promoting dialogue to reach an overall political solution to the conflict that has dragged on for more than 11 years in that country. By continuing to uphold the banner of peace and independence, the State of Cambodia has clearly demonstrated goodwill in implementing its national reconciliation policy and firmly and constantly maintaining its independence.

With a high sense of responsibility for upholding the paramount interests of the Cambodian people, the delegation of the State of Cambodia has always shown its sincere and flexible attitude at all international conferences and meetings among Cambodian factions, thus making positive contributions to the search for an effective solution to the Cambodian issue.

In the recent past, many regional and Western countries, which maintain relations with the State of Cambodia under numerous forms, have further affirmed the ever-growing position and role of the State of Cambodia in Southeast Asia. The changes effected in Cambodia during the past year can affirm the national defense capabilities of the Cambodian army and people, as well as the goodwill of the State of Cambodia in various peace talks.

To date, the general solution of the five permanent members of the Security Council has been accepted by the Cambodian parties at their recent meeting in Jakarta and the Supreme National Council [SNC] of Cambodia has been established and offered a seat at the United Nations. Although the first meeting of the SNC in Bangkok failed to solve pressing questions on Cambodia, the efforts and goodwill of the SNC members who represent the State of Cambodia have created an opportunity for the SNC to hold another meeting so that an SNC delegation will be sent to the UN at an early date to solve other pressing questions.

We have greatly rejoiced at the achievements recorded by the Cambodian people in the year after the complete repatriation of the Vietnamese volunteer army. We also pledge to do all we can to strengthen the close relations of friendship and cooperation between Vietnam and Cambodia.

Although the path to a solution is still strewn with numerous difficulties and complexities, with the goodwill and efforts of all the parties concerned, we believe that the forthcoming talks on Cambodia will achieve positive results.

Hanoi on Sports Officials Meeting in Beijing

BK2609122990 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 23 Sep 90

[Text] On the afternoon of 23 September our minister of culture, information, sports, and tourism—who is in Beijing as guest of honor of the 11th Asian Games—held a cordial meeting with Comrade Wu Shaozu, chairman of the Chinese Physical Education and Sports Committee. Minister Tran Hoan sincerely thanked the Beijing Asiad Organizing Committee for assisting and creating favorable conditions for the Vietnamese sports team to participate in the Asian Games. Meanwhile, Comrade Wu Shaozu thanked Vietnam for its warm support of the Beijing Asiad.

During the meeting, Minister Tran Hoan and Comrade Wu Shaozu expressed their desire for continued development of relations between Vietnam and China in the domains of sports and physical education.

Earlier, on 21 September, Wen Miren, head of the Chinese sports team at the 11th Asiad, hosted a banquet in honor of the heads of sports teams from various countries for participation in the 11th Asiad. On this occasion, Professor Duong Nghiep Chi, head of our sports team, presented gifts to the head of the Chinese sports team and wished the Chinese athletes outstanding achievement in the games. He also expressed the hope that the fraternal friendship between Vietnam and China would be restored soon.

Vo Nguyen Giap Tours Beijing Technical Zone

BK2609125490 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 22 Sep 90

[Text] On the morning of 21 September, Vo Nguyen Giap, vice chairman of the SRV Council of Ministers, visited the new technology experimental zone in Beijing. Chief Engineer (Ho Tieuquan), director of the zone, briefed the vice chairman on the growth and achievements made by the experimental complex.

The vice chairman said: Vietnam is making preparations for the opening of a new technology development zone in the south. Nonetheless, China's scientific-technological experiences, especially the results of the application of key scientific-technological innovations, are very useful to Vietnam.

The vice chairman wished the technological zone and China's technological sector great success and expressed his hope for scientific-technological cooperation between the two countries.

Vice Chairman Vo Nguyen Giap toured the two computer manufacturing plants of the (Tu Thong) Company.

The Beijing new technology experimental zone established in 1988 covers a 100-square-kilometer area and houses 900 new technological enterprises, more than 50 schools, and 130 of China's most important research institutes.

Only two years after the zone was commissioned, its scientific-technological turnover has been valued at 3.2 billion yuan, taxes and contributions to the state budget have reached 120 million yuan, and exports have netted 50 million U.S. dollars.

Leaves China for Home

BK2709125490 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 26 Sep 90

[Text] According to Beijing Radio, General Vo Nguyen Giap left Beijing for home on 26 September via Nanning City, Guangxi. He was seen off at the airport by Chinese Vice Foreign Minister Qi Huaiyuan and officials of the Vietnamese Embassy in China.

NHAN DAN Views Impact of Gulf Crisis

BK2609140990 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 19 Sep 90

[NHAN DAN article by Ban Thanh: "The Impact of the Gulf Crisis"; date not given]

[Text] The Persian Gulf crisis is just seven weeks old but its negative impact on many countries has been great. Following the UN Security Council's decision put an embargo against Iraq into effect, all the pipelines channeling oil from Iraq to other countries have been shut down and all overland and sea routes linking Iraq with the outside world have been blocked or subjected to strict control. The United States, France, Britain, and many other countries have sent hundreds of thousands of troops with modern weapons to Saudi Arabia. This deployment, combined with the other countries in the Gulf, has formed a semicircle around Iraq.

This situation has caused various business contracts between Iraq and other countries to become null and void, Iraq's domestic production to come to a standstill, and millions of foreign workers in Iraq and Kuwait to lose their jobs. Many of these workers have had to go home. Jordan, which used to receive 80 percent of its petroleum from Iraq, suffered a loss of two billion dollars as a result of this crisis. Egypt lost two billion dollars due to the loss of income from one million of its workers in Iraq and Kuwait. Turkey lost three billion dollars due to the oil pipeline shutdowns from Iraq to Yemen and another $2.5 billion as a result of the postponement of its oil trade with Iraq. European countries lost four billion dollars due to the loss of loans granted to Kuwait and Iraq. India lost $2.5 billion because of the oil price increase and also as a result of the ever-growing number of workers returning from the Gulf. The economies of the Philippines, Thailand, and Pakistan have also declined due to the oil price increase and also due to the dwindling income sent home by their workers in Kuwait and Iraq.

Meanwhile, it is estimated that the Pentagon's Desert Shield campaign, involving the deployment of troops in the Gulf, will cost $17.5 billion during the period from August 1990 to September 1991. If war breaks out, the cost will be much greater. In the first month of the crisis, Washington spent a large amount of money to deploy its troops in the Gulf. It is estimated that equipment to combat chemical warfare cost $279 for each American soldier in the Gulf. U.S. military units have consumed $23.4 million worth of food. Potable water and cleaning water used for daily life is very scarce. In the long run, the expense will be enormous.

In order to create favorable conditions for American soldiers to familiarize themselves with the desert environment, they have been equipped with many things, such as sunglasses, suntan lotion, and deodorant, all of which costs millions of dollars. Thus far, over 100,000 American troops have been sent to the Gulf. Their average monthly salary is 110 dollars per person plus an overseas service allowance of 60 dollars. [figures as heard]

In order to alleviate this financial burden, many officials in Washington have called for the assistance of other countries. However, many large countries with powerful economic potential such as the Soviet Union, China, Japan, and the FRG have refused to join the United States in sending troops to the Gulf. Some countries have opted to send money instead of manpower. These countries have contributed billions of dollars. Japan said that it would contribute four billion dollars, with two billion allocated for joint military forces stationed in the Gulf and the other two billion in aid for poor countries in the Middle East. The European Community contributed two billion dollars of aid to poor Middle Eastern countries suffering from the serious impact of the embargo. The FRG contributed two billion dollars while Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, and the exiled Kuwaiti force in Saudi Arabia contributed a total of $12 billion, with six billion reserved for the joint military forces and the remaining six for poor Gulf countries suffering from the economic embargo.

The Gulf crisis has caused division among the Arab world. Public opinion holds that the Arab League's 12-9 decision to switch its headquarters from Tunisia to Egypt is a sign of this division. Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, and Qatar have agreed to allow foreign troops to enter their countries in order to fight Iraq. It is reported that Syria will send 20,000 troops, 270 tanks, and other war means to Saudi Arabia. In return, Saudi Arabia will give $500 million in aid to Syria. Egypt is preparing to send 30,000 troops to Saudi Arabia in exchange for $800 million in Saudi Arabian aid and the possible U.S. cancellation of seven billion dollars in debt from military sales. Morocco has said that it will send 1,000 troops to Saudi Arabia. Iran, Libya, Tunisia, Algeria, the state of Palestine, and Yemen, although not sympathetic to Iraq's military occupation of Kuwait, have advocated promoting negotiations in search of a peaceful solution to the Gulf crisis.

Currently Arab public opinion is protesting U.S. and European military presence in the Gulf. They want the Gulf problem to be solved by the countries in the region. Differences between Saudi Arabia on the one side and Jordan and Yemen on the other are increasing over the expulsion of each other's diplomats and demands for the payment of debts. It was reported on 23 September that a number of Arab countries are discussing the possibility of holding a five-country summit aimed at solving the Gulf crisis within the Arab community. This summit conference, if convened, would be attended by the Moroccan king, the Saudi Arabian king, the Iraqi president, the Algerian president, and the Jordanian king. Meanwhile, U.S. Secretary of State Baker said: The Gulf crisis can be solved through diplomatic means, but the United States will leave all its options open.

NHAN DAN Urges End to Boat People Exodus

BK2109101490 Hong Kong AFP in English 0614 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Text] Hanoi, Sept 21 (AFP)—Vietnamese peasants, especially in the south, are still fleeing abroad by boat at considerable risk to their lives, the NHAN DAN daily said here Friday, calling for stern measures to stop the exodus. While recognising a "considerable drop" in the numbers of boat people this year, the newspaper noted that "in recent months and especially in the south, people continued to leave their villages."

NHAN DAN said they risked their lives at the hands of Thai pirates and faced intolerable conditions in the refugee camps set up by the countries in the region.

The newspaper did not give any figures for those leaving but said that up to May some 1,400 boat people had been killed or were missing and more than 500 women had been raped or murdered by pirates. Many thousands of people had also been forced back out to sea by local authorities after making landfall, it added, painting a horrific picture of conditions apparently intended to dissuade any would-be refugee.

"It is imperative to halt the wave of illegal departures," NHAN DAN said, calling on the government to take stern measures.

Officials from Britain and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees opened talks here Thursday with the government on how to handle some 40,000 boat people denied refugee status in Hong Kong.

Tran Duc Luong Attends Conference in Geneva

BK2509094390 Hanoi VNA in English 0709 GMT 25 Sep 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA September 25—Vice Chairman of the Council of Ministers Tran Duc Luong attended a conference on Vietnam held in Geneva on September 19-20 under the sponsorship of the World Economic Forum.

Taking part in the conference, the second of this kind organized since early this year, were more than 40 leading officials of major companies in Western and Northern European countries, a number of Hong Kong and Thai businessmen, and representatives of the World Bank and the United Nations Development Programme.

Vice Chairman Tran Duc Luong delivered a report on Vietnam's economic development strategy, external economic policy, prority fields in investment and cooperation with foreign countries, and the efforts of the Vietnamese government and people to accelerate the country's all-round renovation in the coming years.

Speaking at the conference, the president of the State Committee for Cooperation and Investment of Vietnam, Dau Ngoc Xuan, highlighted Vietnam's initial results over the past two years in implementing the Law on Foreign Investment and expressed the Vietnamese government's endeavours to create favourable conditions for foreign investors, especially in fields of priority.

The conference welcomed Vietnam's initial achievements in restoring and developing its socio-economic infrastructure, making better use of its skilled personnel and manpower and renovating its banking and financial system.

Tran Duc Luong and Dau Ngoc Xuan had separate discussions with almost 30 delegates of different companies on issues relating to their cooperation with Vietnam.

Friendship Order Conferred on Soviet Officials

BK2609152690 Hanoi VNA in English 1450 GMT 26 Sep 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA September 26—Empowered by the State Council, Vietnamese Ambassador to the Soviet Union Hoang Manh Cam presented Vietnam's Friendship Order to A.I. Sukharev, general director of the USSR Organ of Control, and B.S. Popov, deputy director of the Institute of Social Sciences under the Communist Party of the Soviet Union Central Committee, in Moscow on Tuesday.

The conferment was made in acknowledgement of the recipients' outstanding contributions to the cooperation between parties and states, and to the promotion of the friendship between the Vietnamese and Soviet peoples.

Mining Venture Established With Australia

BK2609103990 Hanoi VNA in English 0655 GMT 26 Sep 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA September 26—A joint venture in mining ilmenite for export has been established between the Ilmenite Mining Company of the Central Province of Nghe Tinh and the W.T. Exporters Pty. Ltd. of Australia.

The undertaking, Nghe Tinh's first joint venture with a foreign country, will operate in 15 years with a capital of nearly 930,000 U.S. dollars, to which the Vietnamese side will contribute some 30 percent.

Ilmenite reserves in Nghe Tinh are estimated at 25 million [metric] tons, and the two sides plan to mine 25,000 tons per year in the first stage.